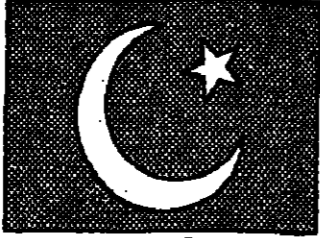


Zia stirs up Shia and Sunni enmities

TREVOR FISHLOCK, Our South Asia Correspondent, discusses Islamic conflicts in Pakistan in the second of two articles on the making of an Islamic state.

PAKISTAN



Part 2 Islamic conflicts

Fighting between the Sunni Muslim majority and Shia minority in Karachi recently sent a shiver through the Government of President Zia-ul-Haq. Although the trouble was local and confined, there was concern that it was inescapable by-product of the President's Islamization drive.

Since he came to power more than five years ago, General Zia has come to believe, like Oliver Cromwell, that his autocratic command is part of some divine purpose. His obsession with making Pakistan Islamic, rather than simply Muslim, has grown stronger. Sunnis make up about four fifths of the population, but Shias are an important minority, not least because they are strong in the business community and tend to be better educated.

The President has already had to give in to them on the question of *Zakat*, a 2½ per cent tax he introduced as part of his Islamization programme. The Shias protested furiously that the Koran decrees *Zakat* should be paid voluntarily and not by government order. The President had to back down and the Shias are excused the tax.

The Government's relationship with Shias is complicated by the revolution in predomi-

nantly Shia Iran. The Pakistanis privately suspect that Iranians have been stirring trouble among Pakistani Shias but do not make public accusations because they want to maintain a reasonable relationship with Tehran. Pakistan is naturally concerned about what might happen to its volatile neighbour after Ayatollah Khomeini leaves the scene.

It is not only among Shias that Islamization is regarded with suspicion. Many women, too, believe they stand to lose much by the imposition of rigid Islamic standards. They have demonstrated to challenge both Islamization and martial law. The brutality of the police in breaking up a women's demonstration in Lahore recently aroused the wrath of many men.

Because of the Islamization push, Islamic hardliners feel confident in demanding enactment of laws which discriminate against women. For example, it has been suggested that it would need the evidence of two women to equal the

testimony in court of one man, and that the death penalty should be awarded for the murder of men, but not women.

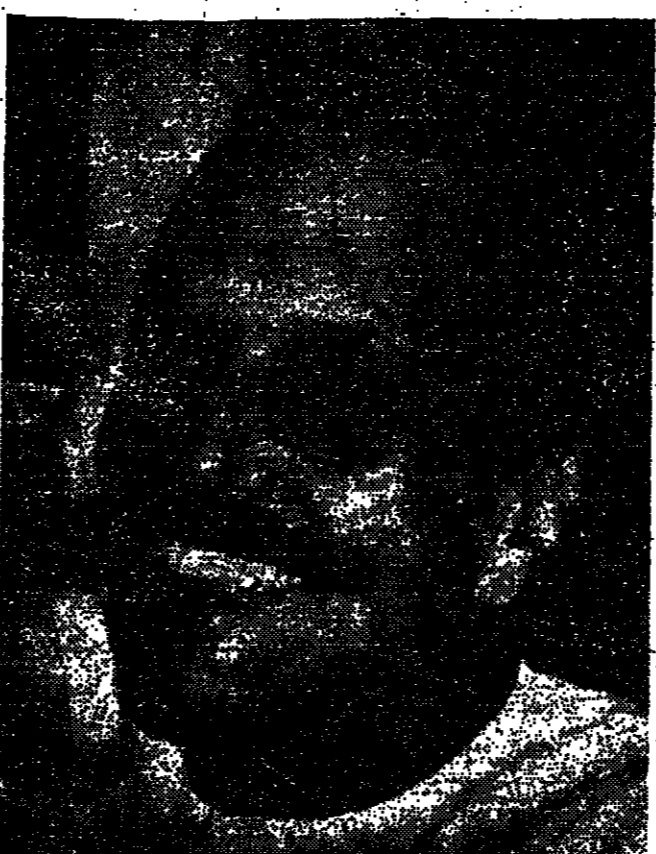
In Pakistan's universities Islamic fundamentalist students, strongly opposed to the emancipation of women, have done badly in elections. Nevertheless, conflict between hardliners and moderate and left-wing student groups continues to be a source of trouble.

Unruliness in colleges is one of the reasons for a damaging decline in the quality of college life and, as letters in the newspapers indicate, concern about education is deep and widespread.

Education in Pakistan is in a chronic position, and teaching everywhere is inadequate. The country spends less than 2 per cent of its budget on education, compared with nearly half on its military outlay. Literacy is only 24 per cent and in some parts of the country the literacy rate is falling. "Our tomorrow is being lost" is the refrain of complaints about education.

President Zia's critics complain that he emphasizes the penal aspects of Islam rather than its practical and social side and that a noticeable effect of his attempt to harness religion is the spread of hypocrisy. They say Islam is employed cynically to keep the people within a rigid framework.

The President grows more comfortable in the job, more sure of himself. He seems somehow sleeker. "Oh yes, I'm an autocrat", he says, with an affable smile.



Zia grows more comfortable in the job, more sure of himself and somehow sleeker. "Oh yes, I'm an autocrat", he says with an affable smile.

General Zia has given Pakistan nearly six years of order, but it is an agent of disunity rather than the basis of harmony, and it is doubtful that it is strong enough to bind together Pakistan's disparate regions and classes.

FBI spied on Robeson 30 years

From Christopher Thomas, New York

The Federal Bureau of Investigation maintained a 30-year surveillance of Paul Robeson, the black singer and actor, including tapping his telephone, bugging his house and intercepting mail.

An array of agents and paid informants was enlisted to keep watch on his every movement. It received active assistance from the State Department, the Central Intelligence Agency, and intelligence groups from the US Navy and Army. Robeson's wife, Eslanda, was also kept under close watch.

Details of the surveillance are contained in official papers obtained by a publishing company in New Jersey under the Freedom of Information Act. They show that between 1943 and 1973 Robeson was on the FBI's "custodial detention" list of people to be detained within 24 hours in the event of a national emergency.

In 1950 Robeson was refused a passport because he would not sign a document stating that he was a communist. Eight years later the Supreme Court struck down that requirement and Robeson went to London until 1963. He returned when the FBI conceded that it had no firm evidence he was a Communist Party member. He died in 1976 at the age of 77.

Spanish coup trial Judges assert civil rule over military

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Acts committed by the armed forces will be judged for the first time since the restoration of democracy in Spain by the civilian Supreme Court when the appeal hearing begins here today over the February 23, 1981, coup attempt.

The seven judges of the Supreme Court's Second Chamber will thus assert civilian authority and law over the military. This was made possible by Parliament when in November, 1980, it reformed the code of military justice.

The judges will also be the first civilians pronouncing on the coup plot which led to 350 MPs and the full Cabinet being kept prisoner in Parliament for more than 17 hours by Lieutenant-Colonel Antonio Tejero, while Lieutenant-General Jaime Milans del Bosch had his tanks out in Valencia and proclaimed martial law.

The Supreme Court will not, however, review the facts established by the Supreme Council of Military Justice during a court martial lasting three and a half months last year, but only examine whether the military court of 16 members, including only six trained lawyers, acted within the law.

Headed by Judge Fernando Diaz Palos, the president of the Second Chamber, who was appointed in 1979, the judges will be hearing the appeals based essentially on the former Centre Democratic Government's contention of excessive leniency towards the plotters and those lodged by the accused men who maintained that they had never taken part in any military uprising.

Colombian quake relief 'blocked'

Bogotá (AP and AFP) - The Colombian Red Cross emergency relief office has said the organization received none of the medical supplies donated by the United States for earthquake victims.

The agency and a Government Minister both denied the supplies were being sold after Catholic church officials and witnesses said some of the relief supplies left for distribution with the Colombian Army were being sold to the homeless in the stricken city of Popayán.

Señor Bernardo Ramirez, the communications minister, said the information was absolutely false. The United States Air Force delivered 6,000 tents and 25 tons of medicine and hospital equipment last Friday, 24 hours after the earthquake devastated the southern city of 200,000 residents, killing at least 240 people, injuring 1,200 and leaving up to 50,000 homeless.

The Red Cross has seen none of the medical aid, and the Army has said nothing about delivering it to the Red Cross, a spokesman for Señor Carlos Martínez, director of emergency relief for the agency, said. He added that the Army had delivered only two dozen of the 6,000 tents to the Red Cross. The spokesman asked not to be identified because he feared retribution by the military authorities.

A spokesman in the office of Colonel José Garzon, director of public relations for the Defence Ministry, said reports that the Army was withholding distribution of relief were lies. The Roman Catholic Archbishop of Popayán, Mgr Silverio Buitrago, said on Sunday that tents meant for the earthquake victims were being sold for as much as \$400 (£265). Dozens of refugees said they had been offered the tents for up to \$100.

Official sources said electricity and supplies of drinking water had been restored in 70 per cent of the city, and that mass vaccination programmes had prevented an outbreak of disease.

Yugoslavia faces drop in tourism

From Dassa Trevizan, Belgrade

The Yugoslav Government is hoping to reap some \$1,100m (£750m) from this year's tourist harvest, despite early signs that interest in Yugoslav summer holidays has dropped, according to first reports, by as much as 20 per cent.

The aim which, even in normal circumstances, would be regarded by Yugoslav tourist experts as extremely optimistic, is clearly not likely to be achieved.

Last year, some 18 million tourists spent their holidays in Yugoslav resorts, including about six million from the West. Nevertheless, the intake from Western tourists was only \$850m instead of the planned \$1,000m. This year, however, additional problems have cropped up, as Western tourist agencies have been reluctant to enter into arrangements for package deals before securing hard guarantees that the shortages, especially of petrol, which provoked much anger among the visitors, will not be repeated.

Motorists last year had to wait for hours in queues, only to discover that petrol had run out, whereas self-catering tourists trying to buy milk or meat found there was none. The lesson was learnt, and Yugoslav tourist officials are claiming that the country is now over-coming such problems. There will be no petrol restriction for foreign tourists provided they buy petrol coupons with hard currency.

In order to induce Western tourists to change their money at the banks, the Yugoslav Government had introduced special cheques which can be used by tourists in shops and restaurants at a 10 per cent discount.

But prices of virtually every industrial product continue to rise, while those of fresh foods sold on the free market are already on a par with, or even higher, than in some Western countries.

Two left-wing papers face closure in Italy

From John Earle, Rome

The survival of two newspapers and radio stations representing different shades of Italian left-wing opinion - is under threat - the Radical Party's radio network, and the Rome newspapers *Paese Sera* and *il Manifesto*.

The Ministry of Post has ordered the closure in five days of the Radical's radio stations on the ground that they cover most of the national territory. By law, RAI, the state broadcasting corporation, has a national monopoly, and private radio and television stations should only transmit on a local basis. However in practice several large networks owned by private capital operate throughout the country without harassment from the authorities.

"We will not give in to this Fascist operation" commented Signor Marco Pannella, the leader of the Radical Party commented.

Paese Sera yesterday appeared under the management of its journalists, in defiance of an order from the owners to close down for good at Easter. The newspaper, which once has morning and evening editions, used to be financed by the Communist Party, but last year it was sold to a company whose

ownership has remained unidentified.

The new owners announced plans to revive the evening edition and to station correspondents abroad, but sales plunged and last week came the abrupt decision to close.

The journalists, intending to continue to publish the paper under their own management, have appealed to the public for backing.

il Manifesto, with a circulation of about 25,000, represents views to the left of the Communist Party. The editor was due to draw a cheque last week for 600m lire (£285,000) as a newspaper subsidy, allocated by the state to all newspapers according to their circulation. But on Good Friday payment of the cheque was stopped on technical grounds by the state attorney's office.

The newspaper says it can continue publication until the end of this month, and is meanwhile appealing for loans from political parties and the trade unions. President Sandro Pertini, who is on holiday in the Dolomites, has telephoned the newspaper expressing his personal solidarity and urging it not to give up the struggle.

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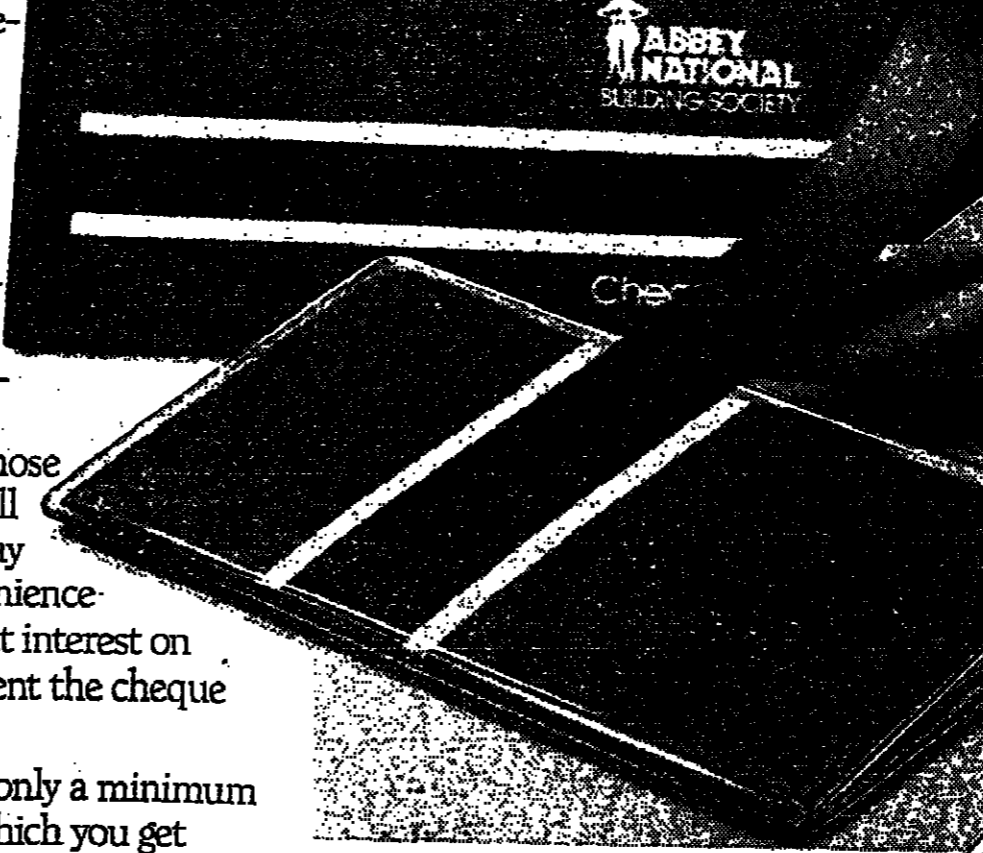
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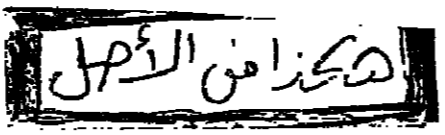
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Restrictions on solicitors

Edwards and Others v Worboys
Before Sir John Donaldson, Master of the Rolls and Lord Justice Dillon [Judgment delivered March 25]

The Court of Appeal dismissed an appeal by Mr Peter Jack Worboys, solicitor, of Wheatthorpe, Herefordshire, against interdictory injunctions granted by Mr Justice Harpender on March 18, 1982, at the suit of the plaintiffs, six other members of the firm of Neve, Son & Co of Luton, restraining Mr Worboys until the trial of the action or further order from, *inter alia*, doing any act or work normally done by solicitors for any person, firm or corporation who or which had been a client of the firm in the five years preceding March 31, 1983.

Mr Worboys, who had been a partner in the firm of Neve, Son & Co since 1969, had given notice of his intention to retire from the firm on March 31.

Mr Michael Esseygan, QC and Mr Michael Driscoll for Mr Worboys, Mr Gerald Godfrey, QC and Mr Martin Roth for the plaintiffs.

LORD JUSTICE DILLON said that it was a dispute between solicitors. Mr Worboys was a real partner in the firm of Neve, Son & Co, which had offices at Luton, Harpenden, Dunstable and Hitchin. The partners were regulated by partnership articles which provided for retirement on notice. Mr Worboys gave notice of his intention to retire from the practice on March 31. He was entitled to do so.

The articles provided for three five-year restrictions on the outgoing partner from the time of his leaving: (1) not to practise as a solicitor within five miles of a partnership office; (2) not to do any work normally done by solicitors for any person or firm within five miles of such office; (3) not to do any work for any person, firm or corporation who or which had been a client of the partnership within five years preceding the retirement.

There was an exception for work for members of the retiring partner's family or for any bank, insurance company and specified associations.

Mr Worboys was in charge of the Harpenden office. His home was in Harpenden. He would like to start up a practice of his own in or near Harpenden.

He had formed the view that the restrictions were too wide and were void. He had invited the proceedings at an early date for the parties to know where they stood.

The judge had granted interdictory injunctions in the terms of each of the three restrictions and also against soliciting.

The judge had said that the question he had to determine on the application for interdictory injunctions was whether there was a serious case to be argued that the restrictions were valid. He was not deciding their validity.

It was accepted that the area restriction in (1) was valid but injunctions in respect of (2) and (3) were attacked. (3) was the more important.

It was said that there was no serious issue to be tried on (3) because it had already been laid down in *Oswald Hickson Collier & Co v Carter-Ruck* (1982) 126 SJ 120; *Law Society Gazette*, April 7, 1982) that such a restriction was contrary to public policy and void.

That case had come on appeal from Mr Justice Jupp at an interlocutory stage. Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, who was concerned with a completely different term entitling the retiring solicitor to act for a client whom he had introduced to the firm, had said that a clause preventing one of the partners from acting for a client in the future would be contrary to public policy because there was a fiduciary relationship between them.

The other two members of the court did not lay down any rule of law with regard to solicitors or others in a fiduciary position.

Advertising manager guilty of publishing unlawful advertisement

Denham v Scott
Before Lord Justice Robert Goff and Mr Justice McNeill [Judgment delivered March 30]

An employee of a company which published an advertisement offering a reward for the return of goods which had been stolen and using words to the effect that no questions would be asked could be guilty of an offence under section 23 of the Theft Act 1968. The Queen's Bench Divisional Court so held when dismissing the defendant's appeal against conviction by way of case stated.

Mr Giles Eyre for the defendant; Mr Christopher Tyrer for the prosecutor.

LORD JUSTICE ROBERT GOFF said that the *Oxford Journal* was a free weekly newspaper with a circulation of 125,000 copies a week. The greater part of the content was taken up by advertisements. The newspaper was owned and published by a limited company which employed the defendant as their advertising manager.

The defendant was one of two employees responsible for the publication and to whom the company delegated control. The defendant had overall responsibility for checking advertisements and for deciding which advertisements would be published.

The offending advertisement appeared on February 12, 1982, in the last and found section. It stated: "Bass 12" long cylinder coffee grinder, lost from house on Hinsky Hill recently, of greatest sentimental value. Tel. £5 reward. No questions asked."

The defendant did not inspect the advertisement before it was published and had no knowledge of the fact that it appeared in the newspaper.

The justices were of the opinion that the offence was of a quasi-criminal nature and did not require *mens rea* and that having regard to the degree of control delegated to the defendant, he could be said to have published the advertisement and convicted the defendant. The defendant appealed.

His Lordship found that section 23 offences fell into the class of quasi-criminal acts. A conviction did not result in any stigma and was a regulatory requirement to prevent such acts as a matter of public policy.

It would be impossible for the prosecution to prove an element of knowledge and to impose such a requirement would defeat the purpose of the section, which was to prevent activities of this kind. Section 23 was therefore an offence of strict liability.

Turning to whether it could be said on the facts that the defendant published the advertisement, it was plain that the only person who could be said to be the controlling mind of the company for the purpose of publication of the advertisement was the defendant.

The defendant in his position in the company did publish the advertisement and was the only person who could do so. If he did not do so, no publication could take place.

Accordingly, the defendant did publish the offending advertisement and could be guilty of an offence under section 23 and the appeal would be dismissed.

Solicitors: Laytons; Mr C. S. Head, Kidlington.

Judge applied wrong test

Regina v Blithing
Before Lord Justice Watkins, Lord Justice Kay and Mr Justice Cantley [Judgment delivered March 29]

A judge applied the wrong test when exercising discretion in refusing to exclude a written statement which was heavily prejudicial to the defendant made by a prosecution witness who had died. The judge refused to exclude the statement unless its admission was demonstrated to be grossly unfair to the defendant, whereas a plea for exclusion ought to have succeeded if the judge concluded that it would be simply unfair to the defendant to admit it.

The Court of Appeal so held when giving a reserved judgment allowing an appeal by Christopher George Blithing, of Sandringham, Mews, Ealing, London, against conviction for theft on a retrial after a jury disagreement at Kingston upon Thames Crown Court (Judge Main and a jury).

Mr Inigo Biny for the appellant; Mr P. J. Richardson for the Crown.

LORD JUSTICE WATKINS said that the appellant, a heavy goods vehicle driver, acquired on hire-purchase for £595 from SDG Motors Ltd, of Northolt, a second-hand Triumph 2000 car. He paid the first instalment and no more.

The agreement provided that the car would not become his property until all the instalments were paid. Before then he had neither the right to assign his rights under the agreement nor to sell the car.

A breach of those terms, so it was alleged, he sold the car to a friend, Michael McKenzie, for £450. According to McKenzie, who said he knew nothing about the hire-purchase agreement, he and his wife gave the appellant a cheque for £50 and McKenzie for £400 in cash whereupon the appellant gave him the car, its log book and MOT certificate.

The two men kept in touch with one another afterwards because the appellant did some repairs to the Triumph for McKenzie. Their dealings with one another were described by McKenzie in a statement which was put in at the criminal proceedings held under section 1 of the Criminal Justice Act 1967.

McKenzie, who had been made the subject of an unconditional sentence order, died soon afterwards. The judge allowed his statement to be read at the trial.

The appellant admitted having received a cheque for £50 from McKenzie but maintained that that was for work he had done on McKenzie's Vauxhall motor car. He denied that he received any other £400 or other sum in cash from McKenzie.

What had really happened according to him was that he and McKenzie exchanged cars. He took McKenzie's Vauxhall and gave McKenzie the Triumph.

There was an exchange of all necessary documents and McKenzie promised to pay the remainder of the hire-purchase instalments on the Triumph. To facilitate that he was given the paying-in book, only one paying-in slip within which had been used by the appellant.

The judge thought that he was doing nothing wrong in dealing with the Triumph in that way. He had previously bought a Sunbeam Rapier car on hire-purchase from SDG. McKenzie had agreed to sell him when he had passed that on to another man who paid the outstanding hire-purchase charges on it. He was, he said, well aware that McKenzie was not entitled to sell the car but he had not done so.

Mrs McKenzie was not called to give evidence. The hire-purchase agreement, although mentioned at the trial, was not produced as an exhibit, but was otherwise referred to. The jury were never shown it nor provided with a copy of it.

The judge admitted McKenzie's statement as evidence consequent on an application therefor by the prosecution under the provisions of section 1(3) of the Criminal Justice Act 1967. The application was opposed by McKenzie but was not submitted on appeal that the statement was wrongly admitted.

The judge had a discretion in the matter which he should have exercised in favour of the appellant, who by the admission of the statement was gravely prejudiced.

McKenzie had not been cross-examined in the magistrate's court and obviously could not be cross-examined in the crown court. Consequently many pertinent and vital questions remained unanswered covering such things as: what had become of McKenzie's Vauxhall; seeing that McKenzie agreed that the appellant had done some repairs of it for him, what he had paid for that work; was not the £50 said to be a deposit in fact that payment; and if he had paid the £400 to the appellant did he pay it in cash and fail to obtain a receipt for the money?

McKenzie would have had to face a stern challenge to his veracity. His reaction to that in the eyes of the jury could have been very favourable to the appellant.

His Lordship said that the prosecution's case against the appellant without the statement was extremely tenuous.

In his ruling, the judge referred to the observations of Mr Justice Ashworth in *R v Linley* (1959) 143 All ER 123 and said he was misled by the position in this case because the prosecution could rely on the defendant's admissions.

The judge went on to say: "The defence take the view that they will have been deprived of the opportunity of cross-examining Mr McKenzie and therefore injustice might result by the reading of his statement. It seems to me that it is something of a *sophism* to say that the difficulty arises, not from the reading of Mr McKenzie's statement, but from his unfortunate death."

"But, doing the best I can, and weighing up the whole matter as it appears to me at the moment, I take the view that, in all the circumstances of this case, it would not be grossly unfair to this defendant to permit this statement to be read."

While their Lordships had to say they had found the judge's observations about the defence view incomprehensible, they were much more troubled by the test of gross unfairness which he clearly adopted in exercising his discretion to admit McKenzie's statement.

There was, including *Linley*, no authority for it that they had been able to discover.

It was wrong to refuse to exclude such a statement unless it could be demonstrated that it would be grossly unfair to a defendant to admit it.

A judge's duty was to ensure that a criminal trial was conducted in such a way that the defendant was fairly treated and that his discretion to control the admission of evidence by applying the right test.

In a case such as the present, where a heavily prejudicial statement which could not by cross-examination be challenged was sought to be admitted a plea for exclusion ought to succeed if the judge concluded that it would be simply unfair to a defendant to admit it.

The use of the adjective "gross" was inappropriate and misleading and did, their Lordships thought, mislead the trial judge. If he had applied the right test he could not have avoided excluding McKenzie's statement, the contents of which were heavily prejudicial and, in all probability, caused the jury to convict the appellant.

Their Lordships profoundly disagreed with Mr Richardson's submission that the jury could safely provide from the evidence the answer to the question whether the appellant had acted dishonestly. The prosecution's case was that the appellant had been guilty of the offence of theft of the Triumph to McKenzie. That case was founded on McKenzie's statement. Without that the case founded.

The conviction had to be quashed.

An order was made for payment of costs of the appellant and the Crown out of central funds.

Solicitors: Somers & Layne, Ealing, Solicitor; Metropolitan Police.

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Delay no bar to review of rent

Amherst v James Walker Goldsmith & Silversmith Ltd
Before Lord Justice Lawton, Lord Justice Ackner and Lord Justice Oliver [Judgment delivered March 30]

The contractual right of a landlord to serve a notice triggering a rent review provision where time was not of the essence could not be destroyed by mere delay however long.

The Court of Appeal so held in dismissing an appeal by the defendant tenants, James Walker Goldsmith & Silversmith Ltd, from the decision of Mr John Mowbray, QC, sitting as a deputy High Court judge, on October 12, 1981, who declared that on the true construction of a lease dated August 29, 1961, and in the events the plaintiff landlord, William John Amherst, of Warden Road, Mitcham, Surrey, was entitled to receive from the defendants as from June 24, 1975, rent at such rate as might be determined by an independent surveyor, notwithstanding that the plaintiff did not submit to the defendants a written assessment of rent for approval on or before December 25, 1975 in pursuance of the terms of the lease, but on or about May 10, 1979.

The court refused leave to appeal to the House of Lords.

Mr Michael Rich, QC, and Mr Richard Moshé for the tenants; Mr John Hamilton for the landlord.

LORD JUSTICE OLIVER said that the defendants were the tenants of commercial premises in Wimbledon for a term of 28 years from June 24, 1961. The rent reserved was £2,500 for the first 14 years and thereafter £2,500 or such higher sum as should be ascertained under the provisions of the lease.

The lease provided that the assessment of such higher sum should be made in the first instance by the landlord and submitted to the tenants for approval on or before December 25, 1975.

The landlord allowed December 25, 1974 to pass without serving the triggering assessment, but on January 25, 1975, his then solicitors wrote seeking an extension of time and asking for the matter to be referred to an independent surveyor. The tenants declined to entertain either of those suggestions.

In March 1978 the House of Lords gave their decision in *United Scientific Holdings Ltd v Burnley Borough Council* (1978) AC 904 and on June 2, 1978, the landlord's solicitors called on the tenants to appoint an independent surveyor. That request the answer to the clause in the instant case was one where time was of the essence.

The landlord issued an originating summons on which it was held in May 1979 that time was not of the essence of the rent clause but that the letter of January 1975 was not the landlord's assessment of rent required to trigger off the review clause.

On May 9, 1979, a related attempt was made to rectify that omission by serving a notice which specified an assessment of £16,000 a year. An appeal by the tenants against the declaration that time was not of the essence was dismissed in January 1980. But there was still a dispute about whether the trigger notice was valid, and the landlord issued the present originating summons.

On the appeal the tenants had been content to confine themselves to the two propositions: (1) that delay in serving the trigger notice was unreasonable and; (2) that unreasonable delay, without agreement and in particular without agreement, of evidence of prejudice or hardship to the tenant, was fatal to the landlord's claim.

The question of how the contract should be construed and the question of whether a party in default might have deprived himself of a right to rely on the contract had to be treated as locally distinct and separate questions.

A landlord, in serving notice, was not invoking the aid of the court to perform the contract. He was exercising his right, which the contract, as properly construed, conferred on him.

If it was to be constituted in the sense that time was of the essence he had no right to serve the notice. If it was not then the right existed unless the tenant could show either that the contract, or that part of the contract had been abrogated or that the landlord had precluded himself from exercising it.

The tenant might do that by showing that the contract had been repudiated, for instance where he had served a notice calling on the landlord to exercise his right within a reasonable time or not at all and such notice was ignored, or that some event had happened which estopped the landlord from relying on his right.

But there was no ground for saying that mere delay, however lengthy, destroyed the contractual right.

His Lordship knew no authority for the proposition that the effect of construing a time stipulation as not being of the essence was not to substitute a fresh implied term that the contract should be performed within a reasonable time and even if such a term was to be substituted the passage of a reasonable time would not automatically abrogate the contract.

Despite what Lord Salmon said in the *United Scientific* case (at p 951) his Lordship would suggest that even delay plus hardship to the tenant would not disentitle the landlord to exercise the right which he had on the true construction of the contract, unless the combination amounted to an estoppel.

The appeal should be dismissed.

Lord Justice Ackner said Lord Justice Lawton concurred in the result.

Solicitors: Salway & Davis, Macdonald Stacey, 70, 72, 74, 76, The Strand, London, W.C.2.

Further Law reports, page 27

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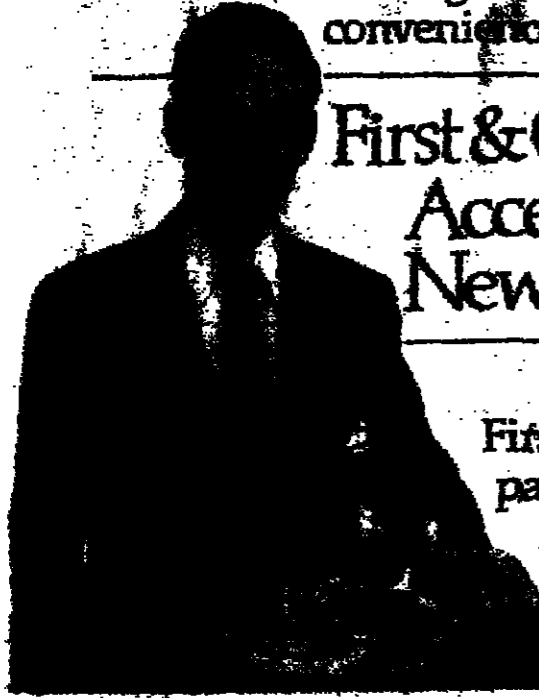
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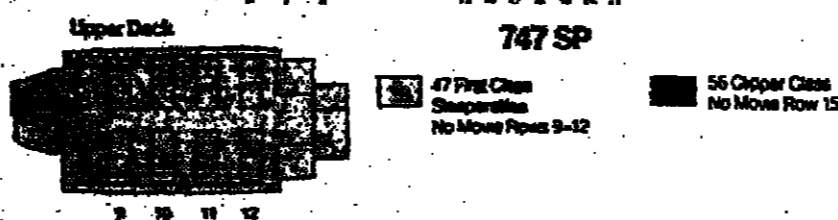
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THE ARTS

Paul Griffiths reflects on the musical machinations of time Growing the whiskers of increasing refinement

Just suppose for a moment that we were living a century ago. Wagner is recently dead; we could have seen his Parsifal performed for the first time at Bayreuth last year. Liszt and Hugo Wolf meet this month to discuss the future of music. Liszt advises the young man to try his hand at a symphonic poem, while he himself works at the weird keyboard meditations of his last years. Brahms will write his Third Symphony this summer. Elsewhere music burgeons in the minds of Tchaikovsky and Franck, Dvorak and Debussy, Borodin and Mahler. They were giants in these days. Certainly the most devoted admirer of contemporary music - and I count myself to be pretty devoted - would find it hard to compile a similar list of 10 composers alive in this year of 1983 and creating at the same level. Of course there are a great many arguments to account for the

discrepancy. They range from the severely practical to the metaphysical, from the general damaging of western brains from lead pollution to the impossibility of making songs after Auschwitz and Hiroshima. They include also the lack nowadays of a generally accepted musical language, the commercial interest vested in the "classics" and the seeming indifference of most people to new music outside the general sphere of rock and jazz. As someone once said to me, why should anybody bother with contemporary music when there is so much Haydn?

But I wonder if all these arguments are not addressing a false comparison and a false problem. To labour composers now for not being Wagner, Brahms, Tchaikovsky and the rest is to suppose that the Wagner et al. of 1883 were the same as the Wagner et al. of today. Of course they were not. A century has passed, and with it their music has changed, even if the notes have stayed the same. In the first place, it has grown old. Music never really becomes old, because it is re-created at every performance, but at the same time

music always carries within it traces of its time - like any product of the human mind. It may be, therefore, that we need to project ourselves backwards if we are to appreciate say, the operas of Massenet. It may be, too, that we miss much that had only passing relevance, that we misconstrue things that would have been abundantly plain to an audience of the time. On the other hand, because music is the most abstract of the arts it is also the most dependent on its own traditions, which means that music of the past has gained an immense

load of meaning that was not available to its first listeners. And that meaning has been added by an array of composers, performers and critics. No spectator at Parsifal in 1882 could have seen it as a gateway to so much in composers as diverse as Mahler and Bartok, Debussy and Richard Strauss. No one nowadays could fail to be aware at some level of the opera as a herald of things to come as well as a consummation of Wagner's own achievement. The repetitions of countless performances, stored up in a body of tradition supporting any major work,

have also contributed a cloud of nuances, thin at the start but now dense and still growing. Meanwhile critics and musicologists have similarly altered perception. It is entirely possible, for instance, that Wagner and Brahms would simply not understand much that is now being written about them in terms of psychological motivation and musical analysis. That does not render modern studies invalid. It just confirms that the Parsifal and the F major Symphony of 1883 are not what they were a century ago, and are becoming ever less such.

If one wants proof of that, one only has to look at the original reviews, whose judgments and assumptions so often seem alien to the point of incomprehensibility. It is not that critics then were deaf or stupid, merely that they were remarking on experiences quite other from our own. Perhaps, therefore, the lesson to be learnt from comparison with the past is not that the standards of composition have declined lamentably but that the complexity of musical appreciation has increased vastly (the audience is also very much bigger, but that is another matter). If that is the case, then it could be that we can only really be satisfied with music that has grown whiskers of increasing refinement. Beethoven and Stockhausen may be tolerable by the 2080s. But by then who will Brahms and Wagner sound like?

Theatre in the United States II: Irving Wardle at Louisville A celebration of writers' lib

Just-as is nothing compared with the shock of moving from the Broadway theatre to the Actors Theatre of Louisville, Kentucky. New York theatre is a sumptuously upholstered WASP haven from the teeming, uncensored life on the streets. Downtown Louisville, despite all efforts to reclaim it, remains an urban desert where lone figures wander among the fortress-like buildings as might survivors of a neutron bomb. Set foot inside ATL, though, and all America is there from the beaches of Southern California to the snows of Minnesota, and local spectators find themselves rubbing shoulders with visitors from Haiti, Zimbabwe, Egypt and China.

This is my fourth experience of Louisville's annual Humana Festival of New American Plays, but the operation still takes my breath away, and I doubt whether any place on earth does as much to promote the work of living playwrights. ATL sifts some 4,000 scripts a year; administers commissions and awards; mobilizes subscription audiences and corporate funding; supports excellent casts with a starkly realistic design team; and then throws a three-day party showing off the results to the world. Usually there are nine productions. This year there were 10, and, as one of them was too big for either the studio or the main house, the public were taken off by bus to see it in a cartage warehouse 12 miles out of town. On the door you were given a crumpled programme for Gary Leon Hill's Food from Trash, and then you took one of the benches surrounding a duplex apartment, an office and other simultaneous locations, all situated on an earth floor in the midst of a giant garbage dump. Periodically a white Lincoln glided through the debris, not to mention the garbage truck itself - which had been built by Paul Owen's

design unit, as the actual vehicle was too high for the warehouse doors. Environmental theatre may likewise be due for the garbage tip, but you can only salute a company that goes to such lengths to give a playwright what he wants. There remains the question of the play itself. Food from Trash is the latest American rewrite of An Enemy of the People, simultaneously examining the commercial abuses of toxic waste and disposal and its moral effect on those who do the job. Just as Phil's "Industrial Refuge" company is poisoning the area, so his workers have come to look on themselves as garbage; and the play is as much a plea for releasing their suppressed potentialities as for transforming excrement into methane. That is a neat idea, but Mr Hill swamps it up to its neck in the stinky excesses of Southern Gothic. There is teenage nymphomania, trigger-happy law-enforcement and incessant verbal and physical violence. And, as its agent of change, the play introduces an Indian

outcast called Running Joke, who unaccountably has the scientific know-how to steal the boss's limousine and convert it to methane power before having his chest blown out by her redneck. As a dying aria, however, he gets the chance to harangue the guilty parties with an interminable catalogue of pollutants, thus bludgeoning home the message which the play has failed to enact. This production highlights the strengths and weaknesses of the Louisville operation. Its care with actors, design and stage-management are not matched by its care with texts which often suffer from long-windedness, action-stopping memory speeches and other correctable faults that nobody has bothered to correct. As a result, it succeeds more often with short plays than with those of full length, and the productions most worth dwelling on come from writers who already know their business. Most conspicuous among them is Adele Edling Shank (whose Sunset/Sunrise was the festival's 1979 star attraction), who has developed her own brand of Californian "hyperrealism" and who works in partnership with her husband, Theodore Shank, who had directed Sand Castles in San Francisco before presenting it to Louisville. The handiest analogy for a Shank play is a Hockney painting: a cold, beautifully detailed surface, addressed to the emotionally detached observer. If she is telling a story, it is one that began long before the first scene, which you overhear and try to piece together like a conversation from an adjoining table. Such, too, is the relationship between the holiday groups in Sand Castles, stretched out on the beach and making fleeting contact with the natives against the surge of the Pacific breakers. A middle-aged husband strikes up acquaintance with a solitary blade-faced beauty, and then shuffles off back to the wife he is about to divorce. A girl picks up a monosyllabic boy from the ocean and arranges to smuggle him into her hotel



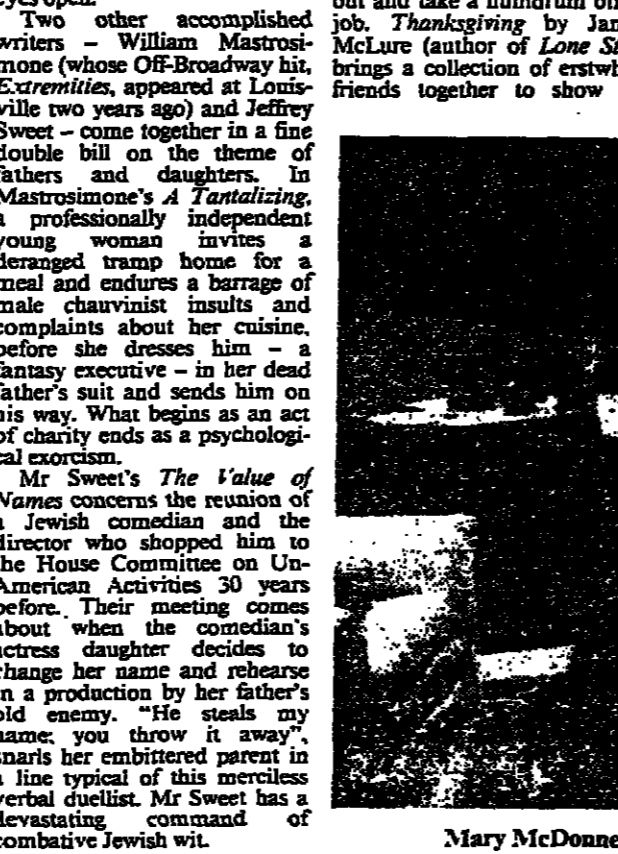
The cold, detailed surface of Sand Castles (left), with Carol Shoup-Sanders and John Vennema; and Bill Smitrovich and Kent Broadhurst (as Running Joke) in the steamy excess of Food from Trash



room. And, while these fragmentary stories are taking shape, we observe the regular traffic of the beach: an elegant prostitute on the promenade above who keeps in touch with her tough, protective daughter by walkie-talkie; and a deranged Ancient Mariner figure who haunts the area, erupting into spasmodic violence and attempts to make it back to his native Australia by surfboard. Mrs Shank can tell stories and spring powerful surprises, as where the haughty beauty summons a leather-clad harem and places her in a wheel-chair. But this writer's real achievement is to make the ordinary extraordinary, by building highly dramatic patterns without invading the characters' privacy, and revealing how much you can learn about the passing crowd if you keep your eyes open. Two other accomplished writers - William Mastrosimone (whose Off-Broadway hit, Extremities, appeared at Louisville two years ago) and Jeffrey Sweet - come together in a fine double bill on the theme of fathers and daughters. In Mastrosimone's A Fantazling, a professionally independent young woman invites a deranged tramp home for a meal and endures a barrage of male chauvinist insults and complaints about her cuisine, before she dresses him - a fantasy executive - in her dead father's suit and sends him on his way. What begins as an act of charity ends as a psychological exorcism. Mr Sweet's The Value of Names concerns the reunion of a Jewish comedian and the director who shopped him to the House Committee on Un-American Activities 30 years before. Their meeting comes in his defeated attempts to sell out and take a humdrum office job. Thanksgiving by James McClure (author of Lone Star) brings a collection of erstwhile friends together to show off

their wounds, their glittering successes and their retreats down the corporate burrow. In Jon Jory's production, this got going with a great bang, and then ran out of steam as the drunken thanksgivings aimlessly congregated around an oriental bridge to play party games and relate their sense of loss to the state of Western civilization. Susan Kingsley, as a brusque career girl informing the Deity that the Bible could do with some sensible editing, redeems even the second act. The most interesting of this group was Kathleen Tolan's A Weekend Near Madison, another reunion play in which a feminist folk-singer breaks her tour for a few days with some old friends in the wilds of Wisconsin. They are all "alternative" people, now at the midnight of youth and feeling a cold wind blowing. The atmosphere of Emily Mann's production is filled with panic and unacted desires. The Wisconsin wife (a non-writing writer) longs to get back to the filth and junk-

Advertisement for 'A MAP OF THE WORLD' at the National Theatre. It includes details about the play, the cast, and ticket information. The text is arranged in a circular pattern around a central graphic.



Mary McDonnell masked behind radiance in A Weekend Near Madison

Television Worth the telling

The format of First Tuesday (Yorkshire) - that of a "news magazine" - is obviously not a new one; most of the "hard news" at six or nine o'clock is now treated in a glossy and anecdotal way, so that we seem to be watching a collection of short stories. But, if last night's format was conventional, the subjects were not. Gathering together all the members of Yorkshire television who have not been emasculated at TV-am, the idea of the series is to present films of such a quality that they are interesting in themselves and not simply as adjuncts to a news item.

If the first night was anything to go by (and it rarely is), success is imminent. The longest item, "The Chinese Geordie", concerned a Tyne-side, David Young, who in 1949 jumped ship at Hongkong and joined the Chinese Communists. He has lived in China ever since, earning his living in a sugar mill. When he was asked how he had survived the privations of what had originally been a harsh communal life, he said that in England he had known only the Depression and the Second World War - Chinese life was easier. And, in any case, he liked the communal spirit; it reminded him of the villages of Durham.

As they say in television comedies, there is no answer to that - or, rather, the answer would have been too complicated for such a programme. And that was the trouble. Mr

London theatre Hedda in India The Upstream

No, not such a drastic adaptation as it sounds; less so than, for example, Tony Harrison's Indian reworking of Phaedra for the National. Madhav Sharma's new version of Hedda Gabler set in newly independent India is more like Thomas Kilroy's Irish Seagull at the Royal Court last year, a faithful translation in the broadest sense. Add the heavy, stuffy drawing room Peter Ling has designed, full of dusty carpets and plush, dominated by a carved overmantel bearing a bust of General Gable (Crowe in this British incarnation) with George VI's impeccable profile, and you have ever seen.

Actors Unlimited aims principally to use Asian actors, and, with one exception, does so successfully. Only Hedda (Jenny Seagrave) and the Judge Brack, here reborn as Commissioner Brooke in the gently poisonous person of Donald Gee, are European. Tesman, Hedda's husband, becomes Farooq Usman, still young as she is herself, a prepubescent college boy with too many aunts; and in Raad Rawi's faultless performance a comic but very credible figure, sufficiently lost-looking always to secure the female support he cannot do without.

Concert Philharmonia/Dutoit Festival Hall

The sudden indisposition of Marisa Robles switched Rodrigo's Concierto de Aranjuez back on Monday from the advertised harp version to the original for guitar, and brought to the forefront, which is just where he should be, the guitarist Alexander Lagoya.

Mr Lagoya obviously engaged immediately the respect and affection of both orchestra and audience, who demanded and received a short solo encore. He earned it by playing which made one realize just how seldom, among many so-called virtuoso performances of this work, an artist is able effortlessly to recreate that synthesis of the classical and the popular in form and sentiment of which Rodrigo himself speaks. The steady, urbane restraint of his opening was set against a passagework of exquisite, fluttering delicacy; and the intensity of expression, even in the accompanying chords to the outlandish eloquent solo in the Adagio, soon dissolved into improvisatory passages of remarkable fluidity, only to be refocused in finely wrought miniatures of counterpoint.

London debuts Stamina and breadth of vision

In her debut recital in Western Europe the Armenian pianist Nellie Akopjan justified her reputation as something of a Schumann specialist with her performance of that vast triptych the Fantasy in C major. She had both the stamina and the breadth of vision to be able to negotiate this towering monument with comparative ease, whether in the tempestuous sprawl of the first movement, in the crashing, widely-spread and almost ostentatious marching chords of the central one, or in the searing poetry of the closing slow movement. Her Chopin was just as impressive, and she drove the B minor Sonata with firm technical control, yet achieved both there and in a pair of Nocturnes a glowing warmth in her sound and an immaculate sense of formal balance. At the same time, she kept a subtle element of dryness which helped the music retain something of its Polish quality beneath all its Frenchified elegance on its surface. A slightly younger British pianist, Simon Sherrington, was scarcely less accomplished. He began boldly with Beethoven's Bagatelles, Op 126, reveling in the astonishing variety of mood which makes the cycle as stormy and as visionary as a late piano sonata. At the other end of his programme he gave a remarkably clean but highly charged reading of Brahms's exuberantly inventive Handel Variations, Op 24. Between these pieces there was less substantial fare, though quite as difficult to play. A Liszt Ballade, a pair of Etudes-Tableaux by Rachmaninov, and a rather long Poulenc oddity, the Theme varie of 1951, were

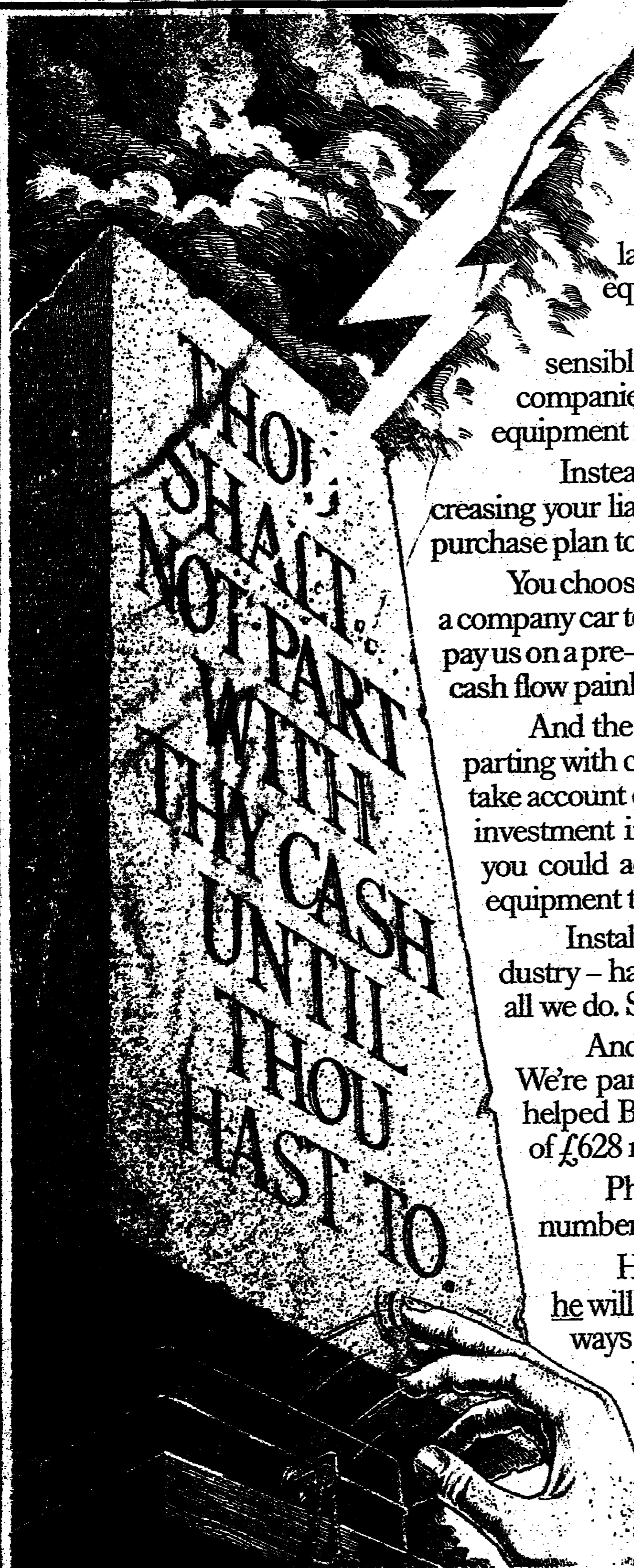
played not only with virtuosity but, even more laudably, with modesty and impeccable taste. Anne Hooley and Robin Bowman, a violin and piano duo, gave the first performance in London since 1889 (when it was written) of a Sonata in D minor by Parry, a little discovery which sounded a bit like watered-down Brahms but a good deal more interesting and carefully wrought than some of Parry's choral works. Miss Hooley took some time to settle, but she had done so by her second piece, Fauré's Second Sonata, which she imbued with a strong sense of line and a passion that almost negated the complacency I feel in this music. She struggled a little with Schubert's Fantasia in C, an interminable hotch-potch of work, but gave Ravel's posthumous Sonata with refined elegance which was helped by her unabashedly Francophile accompanist. The British debut of the Italian violinist Mauro Loggiero in Berg's Chamber Concerto was a fine excuse to hear the youthful and enervating Endymion Ensemble. He and the American pianist Ursula Oppens projected Berg's sometimes elusive solo lines with a rare conviction. But this is really a concerto for everyone involved, and John Whitfield elicited some lavishly expressive playing from his ensemble, shedding what for me was new light on one of Berg's most difficult scores. Mozart's Sereenade for 13 wind instruments had earlier received a disciplined but imaginative reading; and the Endymion's fine players revitalized Tippett's slight but enjoyable Sonata for four horns.

Stephen Pettitt

Advertisement for the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC) production of 'The Taming of the Shrew'. It features a photograph of a woman and text about the play, including ticket prices and the location at the Barbican Theatre.



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On Yorkshire's famous moorland, Anne Haigh (left) is a member of a band of amateur archaeologists

whose findings may rewrite the history of Europe's Bronze Age

Stones that speak on Ilkley Moor

By Stan Abbott

For eight years Anne Haigh has meticulously scoured the 150,000 wild, wet, windy acres that are Ilkley Moor in search of the curious cup-and-ring marked stones that litter this peat and heather wasteland in West Yorkshire.

Her efforts — and those of her fellow members of the Ilkley Archaeological Group, who have invested an estimated 25,000 man-hours in their fieldwork — and twice as long again cataloguing the results — seem almost insignificant in comparison with the three and a half thousand years the mysterious stones have guarded their secrets. Yet suddenly, in the space of a few weeks, the dream of every amateur archaeologist has come true for the Ilkley group as their work has suddenly acquired a significance that could ultimately require the rewriting of the prehistory not just of Britain, but of the whole of Europe.

The recent frenzy began when the group managed to persuade some of Europe's leading authorities on prehistoric rock art to visit the moor — visits that opened the door to sort of backing required to mount a full-scale exploratory excavation. That dig, carried out in the winter's most atrocious weather and against a deadline imposed by the start of the grouse breeding season, will, it is hoped, yield the dating evidence to back up the group's contention: that the cup-and-ring stones, cairnfields, enclosures and

evidence of hut circles on the moor belong not to the Iron Age (about 600BC) as originally thought but to a much earlier Bronze Age.

Soil samples now with Leeds University Plant Sciences Department may provide evidence from pollen and carbon-14 dating that the settlement originated in about 1800-1400BC. While both settlement evidence and cup-and-ring stones are found in highland Britain from Dartmoor to the Shetlands, nowhere else is the evidence linking the two so strong as at Ilkley.

"If we are right, this really advances the knowledge of Bronze Age mixed-economy highland landscapes and it does so in an area that has been previously written off by British archaeology," Bill Godfrey declares.

While Mrs Haigh, aged 69, the widow of a medical missionary, has painstakingly recorded the details of 260 cup-and-ring stones, more than half of them previously unknown, Mr Godfrey, a 49-year-old charge nurse, has been the group's "cairnfield man".

The contention is that while the highlands may have developed more slowly than areas like the Thames Valley and the Downs, they nevertheless enjoyed their own Bronze Age, which may well have endured in pockets until the arrival of the Romans, sharing cultural links with Scandinavia and those in northern Italy.



Bill Gregory draws up a grid of an uncovered cairn: "People haven't been prepared to slog it out in the snowstorms to find the evidence."

"If you look at the average textbook distribution map of prehistoric Britain you find the highland areas are rather sparse," Godfrey says. "We believe this skew in the distribution maps is largely due to the fact that people haven't been prepared to slog it out in the snowstorms to find the evidence. It's been more fruitful for all these lovely professors in London and Oxford to 'do' the rolling downs."

The Ilkley group's work had its beginning in adult education classes in 1975 and over the next few years the members set about training themselves in the skills of archaeology, such as fieldwork and surveying.

"At the end of the first four or five years' work, in about 1980," Godfrey continued, "we were aware that we needed to test our ideas further. Over the last two to two and a half years we had been pushing to get some exploratory excavation work under way."

By the start of this year, that had led to West Yorkshire County Council agreeing in principle to release two staff from its archaeological unit for a short time and to the landowner, Major John Ingham, allowing the chosen site, a cairn selected because of its previously undisturbed appearance, to be excavated.

But it took visits from such distinguished prehistorians as Dr Andrew Fleming of Sheffield University, Peter Fowler, secretary of the Royal Commission on Historic Monuments and President of the Council of British Archaeology, and Professor Emmanuel Anati of the University of Lecca in southern Italy to spur the council's decision to allow work to start.

Bill Godfrey admits that persuading Professor Anati, among the world's leading authorities on prehistoric art, was the result of rather a cheeky approach to him during a conference on British prehistoric rock carving at Glasgow University last month.

On the Monday following the conference Professor Anati was due to fly home via London, but the group managed to persuade him it was worth his while breaking his journey at Ilkley. They duly rebooked his flight via Leeds/Bradford airport, whose approach path passes over Ilkley Moor, to allow a four-hour visit to the site.

"Professor Anati wasn't quite sure at first why we had dragged him all the way across the moorland," Godfrey relates, "but he became more and more excited at what he saw."

Most significant was the striking similarity between the cup-and-ring marked stones found in Lombardy and Scandinavia and those on Ilkley Moor, chiefly the elaborately carved Swastika

Stone, on which the rings round the cup form a swastika shape — virtually identical with the carvings Professor Anati had dated at around 700-1000BC.

The precise raison d'être of the cup-and-ring stones remains, to say the least, a matter for speculation: no fewer than 123 different theories have been officially advanced, covering just about everything from sacrificial altars to star charts to maps of the alder bush scrubland thought to have covered Ilkley Moor at the time.

A generally accepted theory is that Ilkley Moor in those days was — by contrast with the cautionary words in the popular Yorkshire anthem — a place where one could safely venture "bah r'at" (without a hat), being some 4-5 degrees F warmer, and this has inevitably given rise to speculation as to what might have sustained the upland settlements.

"This would have made summer-time habitation of the moor very much more pleasant — quite nice, in fact," Godfrey suggests. "We believe that what we see on the moor is a mixture of summer pastoral settlement plus some kind of socio-religious/funerary use of the area."

Hopes that the excavation might provide immediate strong indicators, proved ill-founded and it will be some

weeks before soil analyses are complete. In any event, the development of the highland settlements chiefly found also in Dartmoor, the Peak District, North York moors, Northumberland, Galloway, along the Great Glen, Orkney, Shetland, south west Ireland and Brittany, seems to have taken a substantially different course from those in the lowlands.

"The inter-relationship between them is something we just don't know the answer to yet," Godfrey says. But the arrival of "quite large quantities" of worked flint in the highland areas where the stones does not occur naturally point to a fairly active trade — possibly involving hides and pelts — which evidence suggests was also carried out over long distances, where valuable items like Whitley jet and Scandinavian amber were involved.

Bill Godfrey believes the Ilkley Moor findings also serve as a valuable lesson for groups of enthusiastic amateurs up and down the country: "A lot of people wander around the countryside making their observations, doing a little bit here and there. They never get their information together and never consider it should be published. We started out not really knowing where we were going. It's only through persevering and researching that we have come to realise that the professionals aren't as far away from us as we thought they were."

It is easy to sneer at romantic fiction. Its image is both saccharine and cynical, the heroine disappearing into the reddening sunset wrapped in a very carefully designed cloak of glamour. But a 49-year-old Yorkshirewoman, Barbara Taylor Bradford, has quietly raised it to a very commercial art.

Not only has her first novel, *A Woman of Substance*, sold more than seven million copies since it was published in 1979, but her three English-language publishers are so confident of her success that they have agreed to pay her more than \$8m for her next three novels, among the highest advances ever paid to a novelist. In the past year she has become one of the three highest-earning novelists in the world.

The first of the new trio novels, *Voice of the Heart*, has just been published in Britain and America. To capitalise on their £1m investment, Mrs Bradford's English publishers, Granada, have taken the rare step of mounting a television advertising campaign to support the book.

In addition to the £1.5m she has already earned from her first book, Mrs Bradford's American agent, Morton Janklow, who also represents Judith Krantz and Shirley Conran, expects to deliver her royalty cheques amounting to £1m a year for the next five years. Barbara Taylor Bradford, who was born plain Barbara Taylor in Leeds, has become a bigger name in fiction than Cartland or Le Carre, Puzo or even James Clavell.

"I didn't ever think about being successful," she says. "I just knew that it was what I wanted to do. I don't really think about the large royalty cheques coming in every six months or so. I've always had quite a good standard of living and it hasn't made all that much difference."

A smallish blonde woman, given to discreet jewelry and plain silk blouses, she con-

tinues: "I bought some English antiques and paid too much for them because I bought them in New York, but the rest is simply invested carefully. I already had two fur coats, and I didn't want any more. How many fur coats can you wear at one time?"

The only child of an engineer and a determined mother, she married the American film producer Bob Bradford in 1963 and moved with him to New York. She has only returned to

England since to see her parents, who lived in Yorkshire until their deaths two years ago. Although her first novel was the story of a Yorkshire girl who struggled to become a successful businesswoman and succeeded, she denies it is autobiographical. "I don't think I'm writing about myself particularly. I am just trying to tell a story."

She mentions that her mother's last words to her were: "I don't want you worrying about

me — you must finish *Voice of the Heart*." She finished it, she says, to keep grief at bay.

"When I was a child my mother encouraged me to read. I didn't have many friends, so I used to read. I'd read almost all of Dickens by the time I was 12. I didn't understand it, but I read it."

In fact she sold her first story when she was 12. "A magazine sent me a cheque for 10 shillings and sixpence and I knew I didn't want to do anything else." She ignored her parent's advice to go to Leeds University, and joined the *Yorkshire Evening Post* as a typist. At 16 she was a trainee reporter, and at 18 in charge of the women's page.

Within two years she was in London, first as fashion editor of the magazine *Woman's Own*, and then as a reporter on the *London Evening News*. After her marriage she continued to work as a journalist, specializing in design — "but all the time I was thinking about novels and writing bits of them. I must have done at least three." Finally in 1976, at the age of 43, she started work on *A Woman of Substance* and she has never looked back. Even *The New York Times* called it "extraordinary and absorbing".

It is already being made into a television series by the same American company that persuaded the late Ingrid Bergman to portray Mrs Goida Meir — "they have a good record of doing things tastefully, and I had turned down all sorts of other approaches to do it." Negotiations are already under way to make another series of the new novel.

"The reason I am successful, I think," she says, "is that I write about emotion and feelings, which people are fascinated by. I don't write about sex very much. I'm not interested in biological details. Everyone knows what you do in bed."

Geoffrey Wansell

The storyteller of substance



Emotions, says the novelist, speak louder than biology

Without the boundaries of good taste

MOREOVER... Miles Kington

A passing fuss was caused the other day by a new book of riddles edited by Kevin Crossley-Holland, which contained two jokes about Lord Mountbatten in the worst possible taste.

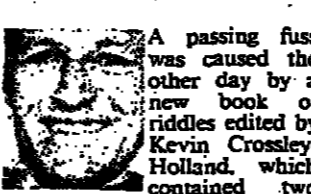
Whenever I hear that something is in the worst possible taste, I immediately suspect that I am missing something funny, so I took steps to find out what the offending riddles were: imagine my chagrin when I found out that they were both quite familiar to me, having been told to me by my children over a year ago.

The only funny thing, in fact, was the sight of grown-ups working themselves into a lather of indignation over the juvenile sense of humour. Children love black humour — in my schooldays it was the newly imported sick jokes from America that were all the rage — and it is only when they mature that they become toffee-nosed and obsessed with good taste. In other words when they start denying the way people really think and talk.

Good taste breaks out all over the place. It broke out in Kilburn not so long ago when the council tried to outlaw the telling of Irish jokes, and were greeted by a storm of merriment from all right-minded Irishmen. I learnt all my best Irish jokes from a book published in Dublin, though of course they weren't jokes against Irishmen — they were jokes against the people of Kerry, who perform the same fictitious function there as Tasmanians do in Australia or Belgians in France.

And it broke out again last week when Tony Banks of the GLC tried to insist that the London Marathon could only take place if 20 or so disabled competitors were allowed to

Without the boundaries of good taste



wheelchair themselves in the race itself. Quite rightly, Chris Brasher quite rightly pointed out that a running race is a running race, and that the last thing runners want is to find themselves falling over wheelchairs, though in the prevailing spirit of good taste, he had to put very tactfully the notion that people in wheelchairs, however worthy, were not runners in the true sense.

Now, it is one of the axioms of humour that the best jokes about minorities usually come from the minorities themselves. The funniest Catholic jokes I know were told me by Catholics. I remember with great pleasure George Shearing, the blind pianist, telling Roy Plomley on Desert Island Discs of his stint in an all-blind orchestra and of the night, just before curtain up, when one of the saxophonists yelled: "Stop! I've lost my glass eye!" If you've never seen 15 blind musicians on their hands and knees looking for a glass eye, said Shearing wryly, you haven't seen anything.

Another wonderful blind pianist, Eddie Thompson, once told me that one of the saddest moments of his life came when he achieved a great ambition, and got to drive a doggem car at a funfair. No sooner had he started than the proprietor turned him off with the words: "I'm not having a blind man on my dogdgem; you might bump into somebody."

But the best of all blind jokes came from Stevie Wonder, the blind and black American singer/composer, who was once asked (or asked a million times, knowing interviewers) if blindness had hampered his career a great deal. —

other at full speed in an attempt to commit mayhem. I saw a game in Canada recently which I still remember with awe because both sides had taken against the referee, whom they considered to be far below standard."

"And what happened?" said Parkinson. "They ran him over," said Bader promptly. "I wish I could comment on Tony Banks. He would, I feel, probably support Mr Banks' insistence on having wheelchair athletes in the main marathon itself, on the grounds that a wheelchair athlete may not actually be able to win the race, but he could do an awful lot of damage."

"And I wish I could hear Mr Banks' reply."

CONCISE CROSSWORD (No 32)

ACROSS

- Flowing back (6)
- Blade (6)
- Type (4)
- Quarrel (8)
- Bedlam (8)
- Bedlam dwellers (3)
- Sheds skin (6)
- Unkempt (8)
- Seed (3)
- News gatherer (8)
- Nightclub act (3,5)
- Choice (4)
- Withdraw (5)
- Disgraced (6)

DOWN

- Other (4)
- Fierce fish (9)
- Zest (5)
- Solicits (5)
- Ear part (4)
- Greek letter (5)
- Walker (5)
- Anaesthetic (5)
- Attraction (9)
- Periods (4)
- Invitation request
- (1,1,1,1)
- Avoid (5)
- Boop computer (5)
- Complicates with (5)
- Tool (4)
- Run away (4)

SOLUTION TO No 31

ACROSS: 1 Askop 5 Biff 8 Adapt 9 Ice pack 11 Telegram 13 Soud 15 Adulthood 18 Inman 19 Tricycle 22 Checkup 23 Along 24 Brea 25 Comet

DOWN: 2 Seal 3 EST 4 Philanthropic 5 Blew 6 Flacid 7 Ratty 10 Kudu 12 Gulp 14 Zoic 15 Amateur 16 Disc 17 Beige 20 Clown 21 Skin 23 Aim

COMMENT

The pain in your pocket

Nine out of 10 employees face a drop in income when they are sick under the Statutory Sick Pay (SSP) scheme, which starts today.

The new scheme, which replaces national insurance sickness benefit for the first eight weeks of illness, has been delayed for a year because of opposition from employers who will not be able to claim back their total SSP payments by deducting the amount from their national insurance contributions.

The Government argues that it is unreasonable for people to be better off when sick, which has been the case for large numbers of workers under the sickness benefit rules. They have received full pay, less sickness benefit, and have thus paid less tax and national insurance than when at work.

Opponents of the scheme argue that people need more money when they are off sick to pay for the extra fuel bills incurred when they are at home, for higher prescription charges, and, in cases of serious illness, the cost of travelling to hospital and caring for children.

The scheme will cover virtually all workers, whose earnings before becoming sick will determine which of the three flat rates of SSP their employers will be obliged to pay. Qualified workers earning between £32.50 and £45.50 a week will be entitled to £20 a week SSP. Those earning £48.50 but less than £65 will be entitled to the middle rate of £33.75; those earning £65 a week or more will be entitled to the standard rate of £40.25.

Present sickness benefit rates are £25 a week for a single person, £40.45 for a married couple, and 30p for each child. The 30p child addition is expected to be abolished in November for all short-term national insurance benefits, including sickness benefit which will be paid to some workers excluded from SSP and to those whose illnesses last longer than eight weeks.

There are new rules on appeals. An employer can refuse to pay SSP to people excluded under the scheme, those who were not off work long enough, those who notified the illness late, or if the employer has good reason to believe that the illness is not genuine. An employee can then appeal to a local insurance officer for a formal written decision, which either side can then take to a tribunal. If the employer refuses to pay SSP despite an insurance officer's decision that he should, the employee will have to apply to the County Court for an enforcement order.

That could mean considerable delays and costs before the money is actually paid. Meanwhile, the employee could face the sack. Regulations to the scheme make clear that the employers, liability to pay SSP cannot be avoided by sacking the employee solely or mainly for that purpose. But the regulations do not say sacking someone for that purpose is illegal, and opponents of the scheme believe that it will be used in that way.

Pat Healy Social Services Correspondent



Lady Olga Maitland with Women for Defence helpers and (right) Joan Ruddock of CND

The Bomb: a woman's place is on both sides

Lady Olga Maitland, founder of Women for Defence, thinks that the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament "has hijacked the word peace into appeasement". Joan Ruddock, chairman of CND, thinks that "the launching of Women for Defence may well be a disservice to women involved in the defence debate."

She spoke of her own women's movement in straight-backed soldierly terms. "My frontliners are all terrific troupers. We'll show people abroad that we're not in moral disarray." There was some domestic imagery, too. Cuddling Fergus, who was now sucking his thumb on her lap, she described nuclear defence as necessary "so that sausages like this can grow up in the freedom they deserve. You would never leave your home with the front door open; why should you leave your country equally vulnerable?"

prospective Tory candidate. Private Eye's labelling of her as "the fragrant hackette" is misleading in that it was aware that Joan Ruddock had already seen off one of his defence spokesmen, Winston Churchill, as well as Major General Christopher Popham, when she encountered them at the normally conservative Birmingham University debating society. Along with her dimpled smile and soft Welsh voice - she was brought up in Pontypool - Joan Ruddock, carrying whole armories of nuclear weapons in her head, can persuasively depict a world bristling with cruise, Pershing and Trident.

She is 39 married to a reader in Biophysics at Imperial College. Unlike Lady Olga Maitland she has no children but, like her, runs two full-time jobs, organizing a Citizens Advice Bureau for four days a week and devoting every minute that's left to CND. To save some of these minutes, we met in the refreshment room of Reading station, discussing peace and defence while all around us teacups chinked and commuters talked of shopping and the cold weather.

A peaceful pause among the teacups

She thought that being a woman had been particularly helpful in getting her elected as CND chairman. On the other hand, she recognized the dangers of exploitation. What would she do if television producers urged constant appearances in the Joan Ruddock versus Olga Maitland Show? "If there's any attempt to do that, I'll take no part in it. I'm engaged in debates all over the country, mainly with men, every week. The public will gain very little from any attempt by the media to turn defence into something associated just with women."

Penny Perick

She emerged as if from a beauty salon

The sleekly elegant "frontliners" of Women for Defence have spoken of producing literature simple enough for a child to understand. Not surprisingly, they have been accused of patronizing attitudes, of being as remote from the lives of ordinary women as any anoraked Greenham camper. Lady Olga has also been criticized for clinging to her title and not going about her business as plain Mrs Robin Hay.

She counters crisply: "There's no point in my trying to pretend I'm other than me." Being herself is indeed a formidable undertaking. A third full-time job will be added to the present two if she achieves her ambition to be adopted as a

Tomorrow: Modern Times looks at squash and the deadpan duellists who settle scores behind closed doors

JOANNA LUMLEY'S DIARY

Win, lose - or simply present the prizes

"Oh, by the way", said my sister, scarcely concealing a yawn, "this arrived today", and she let an envelope flutter from her fingers. It contained a letter saying that she had won the first prize of a colour television set in a raffle. To be honest, she was very excited and delighted; she always is when she wins things, which she does with amazing regularity.

What is it that makes her win and not others? Not me, for example? The first time she won was when we bought raffle tickets in the church hall, and she got a terrifically large box of chocolates. When we shared a flat in London, she named Clement Freud's beard ("Name that beard!") Guildenstern, and was awarded a gold-plated razor. Since she married, all sorts of little goodies have appeared in her house, not least a digital clock radio.

I, on the other hand, have never won anything in my life. I have bought enough raffle tickets to paper a theatre, and have entered all kinds of competitions (mainly the ones to win ponies or bicycles) but have never been mentioned even in the runners-up list ("a five shilling record token and three free stickers"). My Premium Bonds (well, bond, actually: I have only one) bring me no joy.

Now I am in the twilight zone where I frequently hand over prizes or massive sums of money to happy contestants. I usually wear a hat and a wide smile, and of course I am thrilled to be even a small part of the winning streak, but I think I should channel my capitalize on my sister's luck. I must get her back on to the "Complete this sentence and win your dream pony" lark. She does not want any more animals and I think she may give it to me.

The un-blindfolded chairman on my left warned me when larger bits of pâté fell on to the tablecloth, and talked me through finding my glass. I found it hard to determine where sound came from: who was speaking, what was happening. It was confusing and I should have been scared stiff to go alone into the street or a shop.

For all my sympathy in the past with blind people, I had never actually tried to feel what it was like. Half an hour of a lifetime later, I shall never forget it.

I think the best thing about reading in bed at night is that you are quite possibly the only person in the world reading those exact words: at that precise moment, causing what psychiatrists could call a one-to-one relationship with your book. The same cannot be said of the wireless or television. I said as much to John Updike and he agreed. I hope to be forgiven for the name-dropping on this scale, although normally I claim to be discreet; but when I add that I was sitting next to him at Nigel Nicolson's table, surrounded by friendly and brilliant people, while outside spring stole softly over the gardens of Sissinghurst Castle, you will understand when I say that I lead a charmed life.

This is how to play The Murderer Winks. Put as many pieces of paper into a hat as there are players, and a cross on only one. Everyone takes a turn, examines it secretly and puts it back. The murderer is the one with the cross and he, by winking subtly at each other player, kills them off in turn. The potential victims are also detectives and, if while avoiding being slain, one can catch the murderer winking at someone else he can accuse him. When you have been winked at, you must count silently to 10 then die with panache. There are no prizes but you can have as many rounds as you like. We played it rather often over the Easter holiday, and there were satisfying crashes as people slid sprawling from their chairs and bodies slumped across tables. A must for board meetings.

On the evening of Good Friday, we watched the Bond film on television. I was on screen for almost 90 seconds altogether. It was the second film part I had played... but oh! in those days they made Motion Pictures. We, the Bond Girls, lived for two months in Mürren, in a huge gaunt hotel near the River. We were paid £100 a week, a small fortune in those days, and I believe we had pocket money as well. Board and lodging were free, and as the generous stuntmen and crew often

There are so many really excellent things to make with phyllo pastry that I shall fill some of this week's space with chatter. Except to say that no fancy skills are needed to turn a packet of phyllo into dozens, nay hundreds of delicious, unusual, original creations of your own. And all this without even a rolling-pin.

Phyllo is sold in packets, usually weighing about a pound, and the first place to look for it is in shops specializing in Greek or Middle Eastern foodstuffs. Frozen phyllo should be thawed slowly and completely in the refrigerator before the packet is opened. The sheets of rolled dough inside it are usually about the size of foolscap paper, give or take an inch or two either way, and so fine they are almost transparent. They quickly become brittle and dry when exposed to the air and so should be covered with a damp cloth until needed. Then they are brushed with melted butter, folded up round a filling, and baked briefly in a hot oven.

The simplest shapes to make are triangles and cylinders and any of the following recipes can be made in either shape, or in coils or twirls of your own devising. To make triangular pastries cut the dough, cutting a dozen or more layers at a time, into long strips about 1.5cm (3/16 inches) wide, or narrower for daintily cocktail canapé puffs. Then fold the strips into the following shapes shown in the diagram. When making cylindrical parcels tuck in at least an inch wide strip to seal the ends of each pipe.

- Bacon and mushrooms puffs Makes about 15 1 tablespoon vegetable oil 110g (4 oz) bacon, lean and fat, diced 225g (8 oz) open mushrooms 225g (8 oz) cooked potato

THE TIMES COOK

setting, moving the trays to the lowest position in the oven instead of lowering the heat. Lamb and aubergine puffs Makes about 15 340 g (12 oz) aubergine Salt 6 tablespoons vegetable oil 225 g (8 oz) finely chopped onion 1 clove garlic, finely chopped 225 g (8 oz) raw or cooked lamb 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon Freshly ground black pepper 85 g (3 oz) butter, melted 8 sheets phyllo pastry

Cut the aubergine, without peeling it, into large dice about 2cm (3/8 inch) square. Salt them generously and set aside for about 20 minutes to allow the salt to draw liquid from the flesh. Rinse the cubes and dry them. Heat half the oil in a frying pan and fry the onion until it is tender but not browned. Stir in the garlic and fry for a moment more. Take the onion and garlic out of the pan, leaving behind as much of the oil as possible. Add the remaining oil to the pan and when it is hot, fry the aubergine until it is tender. Stir frequently to stop it sticking. Return the onion to the pan and add the meat cut in small dice, or minced. Season the mixture with cinnamon, more salt if needed, and plenty of pepper. Cook it only as long as the meat

requires to be done, then use the mixture to fill the pastry and bake as directed in the previous recipe. Curried vegetable puffs Makes about 15 4 tablespoons vegetable oil 170g (6 oz) onion, finely chopped 2 cloves garlic, finely chopped 1 tablespoon ground coriander 1/2 teaspoon ground ginger 1/2 teaspoon ground chilli 340g (12 oz) cooked potato, diced 4 spring onions, finely chopped 4 tablespoons chopped parsley or coriander leaf Salt 85g (3 oz) butter, melted 8 sheets phyllo pastry Heat the oil and fry the onion until tender. Stir in the garlic and spices and stir fry for a moment or two more before adding the potato. Fry and stir the mixture for a little longer then remove it from the heat and stir in the spring onion and parsley. Season it to taste with salt. Fill the pastry and bake as directed in the first recipe. Spiced lamb twists Makes about 10 225g (8 oz) cooked lamb 55g (2 oz) fresh breadcrumbs 2 tablespoons chopped spring onions 2 tablespoons chopped parsley

1 tablespoon curry paste 1 egg Salt 10 sheets phyllo pastry 55g (2 oz) butter melted

Mince, process, or finely chop the lamb and mix it with the breadcrumbs, spring onions, parsley, curry paste, egg and salt. The mixture may be rough or smooth according to taste. Lay a sheet of phyllo pastry on a board and paint it with melted butter. Place a narrow strip of filling along one long edge, leaving a 2.5cm (1 inch) gap at either end. Roll up the pastry loosely round the filling then coil the filled cylinder of dough into a circle. Brush with butter and lay it on a greased baking tray. Make the remaining coils in the same way. Bake them in a preheated hot oven (220°C/425°F, gas mark 8) for 5 minutes, then reduce the heat to moderately hot (190°C/375°F, gas mark 5) and bake for another 5 to 10 minutes, or until the pastries are crisp and golden.

Baklava Makes about 20 pieces 450 g (1 lb) blanched almonds 85 g (3 oz) caster sugar 1 orange 1 teaspoon ground cloves 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon

To make the syrup, put the sugar in a saucepan with 350 ml (12 fl oz) water and the spices. Stir on a low heat until the sugar has dissolved completely, then boil the syrup for about three minutes. Strain it over the pastries as soon as it is out of the oven, and leave it in the tin until quite cold. Baklava keeps well for several weeks if stored in an airtight container.

TALKBACK

Allaying fear From Dr N H Kemp, Scientific Secretary, Cancer Research Campaign, 2 Carlton House Terrace, London SW1

Whist welcoming the general tenor of the article by Liz Hodgkinson entitled "Cancer: tackling fear..." (Wednesday Page, March 16) I feel obliged to take issue with her statement that "even though more than £60m a year is spent on cancer research in Britain alone, we are little nearer to finding either a cause or a cure".

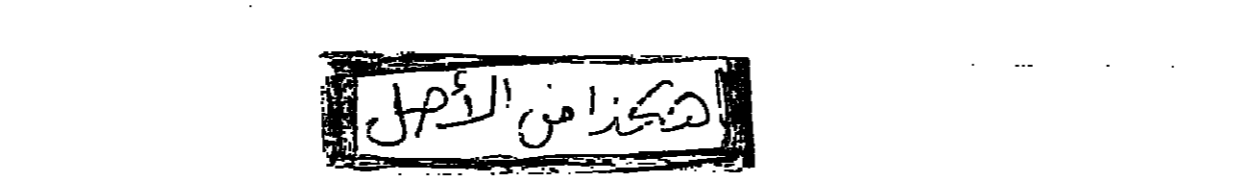
With regard to cancer - and I think that all concerned now realize that we must think of these in the plural - we know that cigarette smoking is responsible for approximately one third of all cancer deaths in this country. This indisputable achievement of cancer research means that, in theory at least, 40,000 deaths from lung cancer alone can be prevented each year. Cancer research has also identified quite a number of environmental causes, including ionizing radiation, sunlight and certain chemicals. Although we do not yet know the causes of some of the common cancers, for example those of the breast and the stomach and the bowel, there are plenty of leads that are being vigorously pursued. On the basis of the track record of cancer research so far there is every reason to be optimistic about the likely outcome.

Slime choice

From Mrs S. M. Mobery, 19 Woodford Square, London, W14

Lady Ardwick (Talkback, March 11) is right in saying that wearing tight shoes is not women's own choice; but mistaken in stating that width is rarely a problem. It is easy to buy schoolchildren's shoes in widths up to G, so there must be a sizable market for shoes that wide. But adults' shoes are not made in widths above C. Four sizes narrower! What are these unfortunate children to wear when they grow up?

There are a few shops that specialize in wide shoes for pensioners whose feet have spread because of foot ailments; but a drainer's selection it would be hard to find, and the sad thing is that these same ailments probably arose from wearing tight shoes because acceptable wide-fitting shoes were not available. It is time the shoe trade realized the size (and shape) of the market.



THE TIMES DIARY

New leaf

The first publishing houses to reject the new package of terms for writers drawn up by the Society of Authors and the Writers' Guild are Jonathan Cape and Bodley Head...

Tables turned

It was a scandal of the recent Bafta awards that no sooner were they presented than three of the heavy bronze prizes were stolen...

A common sight on lapels at the Barbican's Mostly Mozart Festival is a badge declaring: 'I'm with the Wolfgang'.

Out of sight

Sir Lawrence Gowing, whose retrospective exhibition at the Arts Council's Serpentine Gallery is to visit Newcastle, Hull and Plymouth later this year...

Just in case you think our misprints have no rivals, how is this from the Country Life review of Siegfried Sassoon's war diaries?

London love

Americans are incurably romantic. Yesterday John Bryson, award-winning photographer for The Sunday Times, married Nancy Guild...

Black power

I must have underestimated the pulling power of Channel 4. Its sub-black situation comedy series No Problem, has made folk heroes of the three stars...

Capitalism resurgent; the former Communist Party headquarters in King Street, Covent Garden, is being converted to become a branch of the Midland Bank.

Part Stanley football team are playing an unwanted busy list of fixtures in patriotic red, white and blue strip supplied by a Midlands firm.

Anthony Bevins examines the figures in Foot's 12-point plan

How will Labour get out of this pension muddle?



Michael Foot: his plan would cost £3,000m a year



Peter Shore: only £500m left for pension increases

When Mr Michael Foot revealed Labour's 12-point plan for pensioners last month, a pledge that nine million voters would be given their rightful share in the country's future prosperity...

Mr Norman Fowler, the Social Services Secretary, meanwhile appears to be enjoying his own spectator sport, making statements and writing letters which put a minimum costing of between £13,000m and £15,000m on the 12-point plan...



Polish punks: drugs, drink and the black market provide an escape for thousands of young people whose only expectation is a constant call for further sacrifice

Battle for a drop-out generation

Warsaw Backstage at Warsaw's seedy Remont Club a teenage gargoyle uses a toothbrush to apply green colouring to his hair while croaking the lyrics of Odnova (Renewal)...

Roger Boyes reports on the campaigns by church and state for the minds of Polish youth, who look for a better life after Solidarity

The Catholic Church and the Communist Party who, as in a renaissance tableau, are grappling for influence over the minds of the young people. Neither the church nor the party has been successful but the priests have the edge...

pensioners. Mr Foot, therefore, either intends to increase Mr Shore's budget or plans to cut back on the proposals to increase public spending and restrain industrial costs.

Assuming that Mr Foot defends the jewel, Mr Fowler has done a public service in providing official figures which indicate the areas of Labour economy.

It would appear that Government and Opposition are agreed on certain elements of Mr Foot's 12-point plan. Both sides agree that it would cost £500m to uprate pensions by £1.45 for single, £2.25 for married pensioners to make good the lost earnings link.

It is also agreed that it would cost £115m to restore the future link between pensions and earnings, for every percentage point earnings rise above prices, £106m for a £20 Christmas bonus £80m to £90m to reduce women's age allowance to 60; £120m for a £200 death grant for all; and £100m to introduce a nationwide, off-peak, concessionary half-fares scheme for pensioners.

Mr Fowler has also estimated that it would cost another £500m to pay existing supplementary benefit extra heating additions of £1.90 per week to all pensioners to match the commitment to ensure that no pensioner has to go short of the heating they need.

That would leave £1,500m for Labour's four remaining pledges: to improve the position of today's pensioners who will not benefit from the introduction of the earnings-related pension scheme; to begin the progressive reduction of men's retirement age to 60; to give more adequate protection to occupational pensions from the effects of inflation; and to reform "the harsh supplementary benefit rules introduced by the Tories."

It would cost an estimated £400m to reduce men's retirement age by one year, the basic extent of Labour's commitment over the lifetime of the Parliament.

There remains then, one final twelfth point in Mr Foot's plan: "We shall give a television licence to pensioners: free of charge."

That would cost £250m. But the commitment has now been clarified in the body of Labour's campaign document, which states: "We shall phase out the television licence for pensioners, during the lifetime of the Labour Government."

There is, after all, a difference between a jewel and a 12-point plan.

James Curran

Block votes behind the banners

At first sight, it seems totally improbable that a future Labour government would ever unilaterally abandon Britain's nuclear defences in the face of the combined opposition of the press, Whitehall, the armed forces, our Nato allies, the majority of the British people and the formidable section of Labour's leadership.

This scepticism is reinforced by a careful reading of Labour's campaign document. Although it states twice that "a non-nuclear defence policy" will be implemented in "the lifetime of the next Parliament", it also includes a number of escape hatches through which this apparently unqualified commitment could disappear.

"We are against moves", it declares, "that would disrupt our existing alliances." Furthermore, nuclear disarmament measures "cannot be done at once, and the way we do it must be designed to assist in the task to which we are also committed - securing nuclear disarmament agreements with other countries."

The document is, in any case, merely a draft election manifesto. Already some influential right-wing Labour MPs, such as Austin Mitchell, are arguing that Labour should be further qualified in the final manifesto presented to the country.

There are, however, good reasons for thinking that Labour probably will not back down from its commitment to unilateral nuclear disarmament either in opposition or in government. CND has organized a highly effective lobby among trade unionists that has gone largely unnoticed by the mass media.

It was union votes that largely counted for the adoption of the resolution calling for the closure of all nuclear bases in Britain by the Labour Party conference in 1972, and its inclusion in Labour's programme in 1982.

This trade union support for unilateralism extends beyond the left-wing unions to include such bastions of the Labour right as the steel workers (ISTC) and the Post Office engineers (POEU). This means that there is a built-in anti-unionist majority on Labour's national executive committee, whether it is controlled by the left or the right.

The constituency Labour parties are also strongly committed to unilateralism. This has been reflected in their choice of new parliamentary candidates in safe and marginal seats: the great majority are CND supporters. Labour wins sufficient seats to form a government, the majority of the parliamentary party will be unilateralist leadership.

The critical question is whether the party can carry public opinion with it. At present, the opinion polls indicate considerable support for cancelling Trident and opposing the deployment of cruise missiles in Britain, but not for the unilateral abandonment of Britain's nuclear defences.

There is, however, growing disquiet about the way the western alliance has appeared to be pursuing a policy of aggressive confrontation with the Soviet Union. First, the US Government failed to ratify the Salt II treaty signed by Presidents Carter and Brezhnev. Then it opposed non-aligned initiatives at the United Nations to freeze all nuclear arms development. And it has effectively blocked serious negotiations by intrusively sticking to the so-called zero option (President Reagan's revised offer last week is merely the same thing dressed up in new clothes), which is manifestly unrealistic and one-sided.

The planned installation of cruise missiles will probably provide an accelerated build-up of Soviet SS-20s. This will lead to an increasingly dangerous situation in which the nuclear arms race will be spiralling upwards in an atmosphere of mutual fear and distrust. In this context, the rationale for Labour's non-nuclear defence policy - to intervene in a way that scales down the nuclear arms race - may well seem more compelling, particularly if the Russians demonstrate a willingness to reduce their SS-20s in return for the phasing out of Britain's nuclear arsenal.

How public opinion will respond to an intensification of the cold war is difficult to predict. But the 14-mile human chain that linked Greenham to Burghfield on Friday was a remarkable contrast to the CND "mass" rally of only four years ago opposite the gates of the Aldermaston atomic weapons research establishment that merely mustered 100 demonstrators. The emergence of a new consensus underwriting a significant shift in government defence policy can no longer be ruled out.

Peter Hennessy

In case of doomsday, the Otto option

One of the comforting things about burying oneself in the files of the Public Record Office and seeing a Rolls-Royce civil service workbooks to observe the detailed contingency planning that used to go on to keep Britain through a variety of disasters. The late 1940s Treasury, for example, would turn to the late Sir Richard "Otto" Clarke whenever it needed a quick doomsday exercise.

Sir Richard had a marvellous head for figures plus the clarity and literary rapidity of a former financial journalist of the highest calibre. His most dramatic production was completed at high speed during the sterling crises of July to August 1947. He was asked to work out what to do if Marshall Aid failed to materialize, or trickled in late or in inadequate amounts due to congressional opposition in Washington.

It would be of prime importance, Clarke wrote, to give people something to look forward to, and show that a plan existed for getting us through with backs to the wall. For this reason it would be necessary to present a plan for recovery by our own efforts by 1950.

The plan involved changing school terms to enable children to gather in the harvest, the direction of labour to agriculture and a famine food programme. To work, it would need a national mobilization campaign with that year of the year Dunkirk. Marshall Aid came on stream generously and swiftly. Otto's "hush-hush" plan, as it was known to the tiny handful privy to its contents, was shelved, to become a collector's item in 1978 when it was declassified.

In 1948 the Treasury doomsdaywatchers were at it again. Sir Ernest Rowe-Dutton prepared a "Sterling War Book" in case the pound had to be devalued. It was devalued in 1949 and an up-dated version of Rowe-Dutton laid out who should be told - the King, the Americans, the Dominions, the Colonies - and when, and in what order, Clarke was in action once more. He rattled off a paper entitled "If the talks fail" outlining what would happen if the United States administration declined to help Whitehall manage the transition to a lower exchange rate.

In view of the Clarke and Rowe-Dutton files, it comes as a bit of a shock to discover that the 1980s Treasury does not plan in that fashion any more. Sir Douglas Wass joined the Treasury in December 1946 as an assistant principal. He left last week as its Permanent Secretary.

had them. A lot of instruments were ruled out. Interest rates were not used until 1951 to defend against an attack on sterling.

"We have far fewer inhibitions about drastic fiscal policy to defend sterling. The willingness to sacrifice full employment policy is a help here. Then there were limits to what Cabinets would allow on fiscal policy because of their commitment to full employment. Now we have substantial reserves and drawing facilities at the International Monetary Fund.

"We now know that you can mobilize credit at short notice if you have a policy of retrenchment and reform. Otto Clarke had none of the flexibility we have. Floating the pound is another difference. You can let the exchange rate take the strain."

Treasury officials do undertake what Sir Douglas calls "scenario planning" - what would happen if the supply of Saudi Arabian oil dried up, the effects of a major banking collapse because of nations defaulting. The Treasury has not looked at the "alternative strategy" of import controls and siege economy since Mr James Callaghan authorized it to study the ideas of Mr Tony Benn in 1976-77. And (this the Treasury emphasizes with a vengeance) there is no contingency plan for withdrawal from the European Community.

Mr Peter Middleton, who succeeded Sir Douglas yesterday as Permanent Secretary, says Otto Clarke's efforts were necessary because in the late 1940s Britain was moving from a highly controlled economy to a less controlled one, and it was the era of fixed exchange rates. "For today's currency slides there have two options: to let it happen or to step in by borrowing money, putting up interest rates or raising taxes. You don't need a great war book to do that."

The kind of contingency planning the Middleton Treasury will undertake is more in the area of future policy choices than disasters. He mentions the possibility of studies of the tax and benefits system, future developments in the City and the financial institutions, such as investor protection and self-regulation, and future developments in the building societies.

"Through I do believe in being prepared for contingencies, I do not believe in being over-prepared," says Mr Middleton. Should the British economy ever really hit the rocks, he can always exhume Otto Clarke's "staircase food programme" and put the school children to work in the fields. He will find it at the Public Record Office in Kew in a file labelled T 229/136 "Marshall Proposals: Alternative action in the event of breakdown."

Handwritten text at the bottom of the page: "Handwritten text in Arabic script, possibly a signature or note." (Note: The image shows a handwritten signature in Arabic script, likely the author's name, written over the bottom of the page.)



P.O. Box 7, 200 Gray's Inn Road, London WC1X 8EZ. Telephone: 01-837 1234

QUALITY CARDIGANS

When the Home Office drafted the Bill which became the Television Act, 1954, its officials could not in their wildest flights of fancy have imagined the bizarre spectacle of the TV-am story almost 30 years later. In those days it would have been inconceivable that a former Ambassador to Washington would have teamed up with showbusiness celebrities to change the early morning habits of the nation. A combination of Sir Oliver Franks, as he then was, and Mr Hughie Green would have been material for an Ealing Comedy rather than a serious broadcasting and commercial enterprise.

There is a more serious aspect to the statutes governing independent television in the context of the Independent Broadcasting Authority acting as a watchdog while Mr Jonathan Aitken, MP, tries to pick up the pieces left by Mr Peter Jay and Mr David Frost. The Television and Sound Broadcasting Acts grant the IBA enormous powers as a disburser of franchises. They provide very little guidance as to what can be done if an enfranchised operation fails but does not transgress the statutory requirements of political impartiality, taste or decency.

The IBA clearly does not consider closure and rebirth under another franchise to be an option. Nor should it. To do so would be premature. Other companies, London Weekend Television in the early 1970s comes to mind, recovered after a very shaky start, with franchise renewal from the IBA. The eventual certificate of lasting faith. Equally, the authority could not ratify any emergency measures introduced into shape by Mr Franks merely in the hope that headline-catching, energy-saving crisis at TV-am will melt away.

WHITE LIES: BLACK LIES

A fashionable belief in the Third World that the problems of survival - the search for freedom from hunger - and the demands for the "urgency" freedoms of the West, such as those afforded by independent judiciary and a free press, not to mention the rights of individuals to dissent, are luxuries - it may be said - which can actually retard development by arousing passions and ambitions which should instead prevail.

one-party system, which usually spells the end of the press, is obvious. Multi-party freedoms in young, artificially created countries have often deteriorated into tribalist mudslinging or violence. There are degrees of freedom. Sometimes a modicum of popular participation in parochial matters is allowed, within a framework decreed from above; sometimes a variety of candidates is permitted within the single-party election. But the one-party model rarely offers a satisfactory way of ensuring constructive debate about fundamentals.

increasingly interpreted as synonymous with those of government. All the same, it is an awkward truth that the South African press is still freer than almost anywhere else in Africa. Whatever the variations in degree of freedom, the key point is that the exposure of wrongdoing and the discussion of policy, even within tighter limits than would be acceptable in the West, are essential to all societies; progress, however defined, flows from self-examination. Even in Africa, there is often a correlation between justice, general efficiency and press freedom.

A public for poetry

From Miss Marjorie Smith and others. Sir, Philip Howard is - unusually - wrong when he says (feature, March 23) that the general public today is not paying much attention to a modern English poetry composed of "small-cults and exhibitionist stunts... unmitigatedly at each other." Certainly not all poetry being written today is of the same kind, but to more of it than for a long time the general public is paying a great deal of attention.

I know of one large-circulation magazine of high quality which is currently searching the small magazines for good modern poets of all "cultures" for readers who may be correctly described as conventional rather than progressive. Moreover, the growing audiences want to hear poetry as well as to read it.

and differing groups as those of the Worker Writers' Federation, or a multitude of small private societies, where people may read their own probably poor verse in order to come, through criticism, to improved skill in writing, and, for most people and more importantly, to richer appreciations.

Cautious view of lead's effects

From Miss Marjorie Smith and others. Sir, An investigation we have recently completed, but which is not so far published, has been the subject of some comment both in the press and on television. We are writing to clarify our views on its implications for the "lead in petrol" debate.

should distinguish between the issues relating to the effects of lead on children and the related but separate issue of the desirability of removing lead from petrol. In relation to the former issue our research provides no definite evidence that lead at present urban levels is affecting children's development. The decision to remove lead from petrol may be judged prudent on grounds of doubt or political expediency, but this will have to be decided on many different grounds and our study can provide only one indication of uncertain significance.

Pressure in favour of refugees

From Sir Philip Goodhart, MP for Bromley, Beckenham (Conservative). Sir, My friend, Lord Elton, put the Government's side of the case for the deportation of Mr Stancu Papusoiu as clearly as possible in the House of Lords on March 29 when he said:

to accept a substantial number of these Boat People. Brazil is one of the few countries in the world that has empty land and an appropriate climate. The Brazilian Government did not respond. Brazil is now heavily in debt to the Western banking system and requires regular transfusions of very large sums of Western money to survive financially. Many other South American countries are in a similar position. A quiet word behind the scenes during the regular rounds of financial negotiations ought to produce an alternative haven for many of the unfortunate people who escape to the West but who do not really qualify for political asylum.

Forgotten island?

From Mr Stedson George. Sir, Michael Croft's article of March 19, "Wind of change in Britain's forgotten Falklands", is biased and was sullied by the insulting remarks attributed to M Martineau.

to Britain is no longer permitted. In addition to economic aid we want full British citizenship. As Mr Croft says, we have a completely British way of life here, so prospective emigrants would have no difficulty fitting into British society, unlike the ethnic minorities from the independent territories who emigrate to Britain.

Role of civil defence

From Mr John Weatherill. Sir, Supporters of civil defence seem consistently confused about its opponents' arguments. It is not simply that civil defence would necessarily be worthless at all levels of nuclear exchange in war, and certainly not at any conventional level in a prospectively major war.

declared will to use nuclear forces in need (first use). Although the strategy has apparently worked there is growing scepticism about its continuing credibility and of the official will to come to terms with this problem.

Cable TV standards

From Mr Barry Askew. Sir, The cablevision industry, in front of which Mr Richard Hoggart is so vigorously waving his red flag (feature, March 29), is unrecognisable to those of us actually applying for franchises. Our consortium, for example, is entirely British and composed of companies which are household names in Britain and of leading local people. We quite voluntarily accept the need for high standards - moral and professional - in our programmes and we are already planning a very large local and community element in them.

Building reliability

From Mr G. Graham. Sir, Charles McKean (Spectrum, March 28) did not mention that the record for reliability in private-sector house building is much better than in other parts of the construction industry. Independent surveyors confirm that major structural defects are down 50 per cent from comparable levels in 1974.

Nostell Priory painting

From Lady Mark Fitzalan Howard. Sir, Had Mr Jack Leslau (Spectrum, March 25) spent less time in the realms of fantasy, and more time studying other sixteenth century paintings, he might not have proffered his thesis on the covert reborn in the Nostell Priory "Holbein" with such enthusiasm.

Death of Joan

From Mrs Fabienne Smith. Sir, Your report on Joan of Arc in today's Times (March 29) does not mention that Professor de Sermoise is a descendant of the French knight, Robert de Sermoise, who was killed in 1412. The similarity in surnames is obvious. I am not saying what he suggests cannot be true. I hope more of the details are published for us all to examine.

Purpose of medicine

From Mr Rory Coonan. Sir, I wonder whether your columnist, Roger Scruton (March 20), having seen today's photograph of an apparently ill and contorted Mr Keith Castle, still alive and looking three years after receiving a new heart, then had the heart to turn the page and re-read his own words: "How easy it proves to persuade a doctor that the shrine of the dead body should be violated for the sake of a few months of uncertain persistence in the living."

Poland and the West

From Mr S. Janicki. Sir, Mr Hatt (March 21) listed for us the territories which became victims of Soviet invasions and subsequent occupation. The Soviet task was made easier by a powerful ally of theirs during the second world war.

Taking 'The Times'

From the Reverend Robin J. Ray. Sir, The top people will always be able to afford the cost of the best newspaper but not all are able to complete The Times crossword.

Wave of respect

From Mr Benjamin Hughes. Sir, Last week in Hyde Park I saw a police constable wave to a mounted chief inspector. Can I humbly say what has happened to the former salute?



COURT AND SOCIAL

COURT CIRCULAR

WINDSOR CASTLE
April 5: By command of The Queen the Lord Somerleyton (Lord in Waiting) called upon The Sultan of Oman in London this afternoon...

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh will attend a service for the Order of the Garter in St George's Chapel, Windsor, on June 13.
Lord Frederick Windsor, son of Prince and Princess Michael of Kent, is four today.

Latest appointments
Mr William Lockwood, aged 44, until recently in the office of the original department in Cambridge University Library, is to be director of this Chester Beatty Library and Gallery of Oriental Art in succession to Dr Patrick Henchy.

St Ronan's School
St Ronan's School, Hawkeston, Kent, founded at Worthing, celebrates its centenary on July 16 and looks forward to seeing old boys and friends from 11 o'clock.

Moira House
The following Ingham Scholarship Awards for 1983 have been announced:

Church news
Appointments
Church in Wales
Diocese of Bangor
The Rev Canon Robert Roberts, Rector of Llanidloes, is to be Archdeacon of Merioneth...



Into gear: Kevin Knight, Matthew Kenny, Gerald May and Derek Palmer being cheered by Ken Potter as they all registered in Covent Garden yesterday for the eighth London to Brighton Bike Ride on June 26. They will be raising funds for the British Heart Foundation. (Photograph: Harry Kerr)

Forthcoming marriages

Dr P. J. Daly and Miss P. W. N. Guest
The engagement is announced between Paul, eldest son of Mrs Babs Daly, of Edgbaston, Birmingham, and the late Dr John Daly, and Pamela, elder daughter of Mr and Mrs Frank Guest, of Moseley.

Birthdays today

Miss Joan Carlyle, 52; Mr Bernard Carter, 63; the Right Rev Dr L. M. Charles-Edwards, 81; Admiral Sir Desmond Dreyer, 75; Mr Julian Faber, 66; Mr Willis Hall, 54; Vice-Admiral Sir Charles Hughes Hallett, 85; Dr David Ingram, 59; Sir Philip Moore, 62; Miss Felicity Palmer, 39; Lord Newton, 68; the Duke of Northumberland, 69; the Rev Ian Paisley, MP, 57; McAndré Previn, 54; Lord Winterbottom, 76; the Most Rev Dr Frank Woods, 76.

OBITUARY

PROFESSOR H. H. SCULLARD
Distinguished ancient historian

Professor Howard Hayes Scullard, the distinguished ancient historian, died in London on March 31 at the age of 80. He was born in Bedford on February 9, 1903, the only son of Herbert H. Scullard, then a Congregational minister in that town. When he was about four, his father moved to become Professor at New College, London, a training college for Congregational ministers, and the family settled in Hendon. Scullard went to Highgate School and St John's College, Cambridge, where he obtained a first in Part II of the Classical Tripos in 1926 and the Thirlwall Prize.

"We want you to come back"

Reprieved Quantock ponies return

The first of the Quantock ponies yesterday returned to run free on their Somerset hills near Taunton. A herd of more than 60 wild ponies has grazed the Quantock uplands from the beginning of April for the past 60 summers, but this year most of the herd was slaughtered last August at a cost to the county of £56,000 for fencing through lack of money.

Action against farm gangmasters urged

Farmworkers' leaders are to urge the Government to take action to curb the activities of gangmasters who hire seasonal workers for farmers. Miss Joan Maynard, Labour MP for Sheffield, Brightside, who is sponsored by the agricultural workers' union, said yesterday: "Any unscrupulous person can set up as a gangmaster, deal with high unemployment he is able to intimidate members of the work force, who desperately need to bring some form of income into the home."

Plastic ice rink saves day for skaters

Ice-skating amateurs with championship aspirations took their first hesitant slides into the sport yesterday - on a portable plastic rink. Overwhelmed by demands for an ice rink after the recent world championship success of Jayne Torvill and Christopher Dean, Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council turned to a novel "mock ice" solution.

Britain in Bloom in urgent need of sponsor

The annual Britain in Bloom campaign could be in danger of being abandoned unless a commercial sponsor can be found, the British Tourist Authority (BTA) said yesterday. Mr Kevin Moloney, of the BTA, said the authority was appealing for a donation of about £12,000 to cover its part in organizing the national and international competitions that in recent years have attracted 500 entries and won Britain six prizes in the finals of the European Entente Florale.

Homeless will test solar-heated houses

Two homeless families will help to pioneer an advanced solar heating system. They will move into new four-bedroom houses at Peterborough, which have been equipped with computer-controlled solar panels fitted to the roof and walls. Scientists will monitor the domestic trial of the equipment for 12 months. The two families will be chosen by Peterborough Development Corporation from a waiting list. The experiment is being funded by an EEC agency.

£11,340 for dinner service

Christie's sale of English and nineteenth-century European ceramics yesterday included a Royal Copenhagen Jura dinner party dinner set of about 1923 with high made £11,340 (estimate £5,000 to £8,000). It is painted in colours with specimen flower-sprays named on the reverse.

University news

Grant
The Science Trust £60,650 to fund research and teaching fellowship in biotechnology over five years.

Archaeology
Canterbury as a ghost town

Recent excavations in Canterbury have suggested that the city was effectively abandoned after the end of the Roman period, and that a ruined "ghost town" was resettled in the Dark Ages. This new town became the ecclesiastical city of St Augustine, and eventually the seat of the Primate of All England. Large-scale redevelopment within the ancient city between 1978 and last autumn allowed a wide area, known as the Marlowe group of sites, to be examined by archaeologists from the Canterbury Archaeological Trust. "There have been the largest excavations ever carried out in Canterbury", Mr Tim Tatton-Brown, the trust's director, said. "The results have been achieved, particularly for the early Saxon period in the seventh century AD, have been of very great importance."

MR GEORGE SCHWARTZ

Mr George Schwartz, who died on April 4 at the age of 92, was an economist and journalist who wrote for The Sunday Times for 27 years, from 1944 as the paper's Deputy City Editor and from 1961 to 1971 as its economics columnist. He was also, from 1944 to 1961 Economics Adviser to Kemsley Newspapers.

MR STEPHEN MURRAY

Mr Stephen Murray, the actor, who has died, aged 70, had an uncommonly diverse experience in the classical theatre, as well as in television and on radio. Always an intellectual player, lean and intense, he was highly strung with a searching sensibility. In his early days, he worked fruitfully for Barry Jackson's Birmingham Repertory Theatre, and at that time the fortunes of The Bankers' Magazine were running low. The war years had seen a marked fall in circulation. A strong personality was needed to make the magazine recover lost ground. This Schwartz provided in full measure. When he ceased to be editor in 1954, its circulation had risen to the highest level for a generation.

WALTER REISCH

Walter Reisch, a prolific writer for the cinema and an occasional director, has died in the United States aged 79. He was born in Vienna on May 23, 1903, entered the film industry as an assistant to Alexander Korda, and wrote his first screenplays while still in his teens. In 1927 he switched to the German cinema, but went back to Austria when the Nazis came to power six years later. In the mid-1930s he worked heavily in Britain before deciding to pursue his career in Hollywood.

REV MURDO MACRITCHIE

The Rev Murdo MacRitchie, a former Moderator of the General Assembly of the Free Church of Scotland and Minister of Stornoway Free Church for the past 17 years, has died after a long illness. He was 63. He became the first minister of the Detroit Free Church in 1952 and remained there for 15 years before being called to Stornoway Free Church. He was Moderator of the General Assembly in 1979, during which year he made a six week tour of the Free Church Mission Fields in South Africa.

IZOCAM GLASS WOOL/FIBREGLASS advertisement with contact information for Izocam Ticaret ve Sanayi A.S.

Advertisement for a book or publication, possibly related to the archaeological findings in Canterbury.

Advertisement for a book or publication, possibly related to the obituary notices.

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CYPRUS
There is high inflation, flight of capital, no central banking system or monetary management programme, lack of development aid, a deteriorating balance of trade, foreign debts and low productivity. Saddled with all these problems, the economy of the Turkish-controlled area of Cyprus started 1983 on a gloomy note, after failing completely to reach the goals of its first five-year plan (1977-1982). Its economy ground to a halt in 1981 and achieved a meagre 0.9 per cent growth rate last year - from the planned 7 per cent.
In the face of this stagnation, the administration of Rauf Denkash continues to drag its feet over the implementation of proposed economic stability measures, preferring instead to rely on the established system of free enterprise and placing much of the blame for the slump on the Greek-Cypriot economic embargo.
A part of the community's difficulties stem from inexperience: the "Turkish Federated State of Cyprus" was proclaimed in 1975, a year after the Turkish army intervention in Cyprus and 12 years after a provisional administration assumed the task of governing the 125,000 Turkish-Cypriot residents of the island in 1963. In 1975 lack of skilled labour was such a problem, says a government official, that "we couldn't even find people to repair lifts." Now they have lift repairmen, but they lack trained white collar workers, especially in finance. "The lack of the personnel, coupled with the absence of a central bank," says Errol Gurun, director general of State Planning Organization, "have made adequate control of banks impossible."
More problematic is the schizophrenic nature of the community's status. "Are we a bird or a camel?" is the way Turkish-Cypriots describe their dilemma as an autonomous community that has not sought or received international recognition, is still technically a part of the Republic of Cyprus, and is totally dependent on a third party - Turkey - for its survival.
The Cyprus pound remains legal tender here, but since the Turkish Cypriots have no means of earning pounds, the Turkish lira has become their *de facto* currency. This lifeline from Turkey occasionally becomes a noose, for while the Cyprus pound is strong, the lira is subject to constant devaluation and persistent inflation. However, recent economic austerity measures in Turkey have also benefited the Turkish-Cypriots, who managed to reduce their own inflation from an astronomical 123.7 per cent in 1979 to 33.5 per cent in 1982. This is little consolation to the average Turkish-Cypriot, whose real income declined to under £660 this year. (His Greek counterpart earns nearly five times that amount.) He has to work two days to earn a pair of shoes. Housing is scarce and expensive, as are amenities like telephones (there is a two year wait for one).
The one bright spot in the economy is unemployment -

ECONOMY - THE SOUTH
Time of opportunity and uncertainty
President Spyros Kyprianou's decisive re-election in February leaves the economic policy-makers facing both opportunities and some uncertainty. With parliamentary and presidential elections out of the way, the government can now concentrate on taking long-delayed decisions with less concern for electoral considerations. But at the same time Mr Kyprianou and his ministers will be aware that the communist Akei party contributed 34 per cent of his 57 per cent majority, and it will be seeking to translate this support into a greater role in decision making.
Fears of undue communist influence on what has traditionally been a free-enterprise economy have already affected investment, both domestic and foreign. A number of foreign enterprises with a long history in Cyprus have left in recent months.
The most notable departures were those of two British banks, Grindlays and Chartered, each of which sold out all its operations to a local bank in late 1982. The reasons were not entirely political. Cyprus is certainly overbanked, making profitability of the branches marginal relative to the management resources required to run them. And Grindlays in particular was badly hit by the law of 1974 suspending payments on debts affected by the Turkish occupation of the north. Nevertheless, the departures were a blow to confidence, especially when coupled with others by, for example, Wool-

ECONOMY - THE NORTH
A gloomy start to the new year
officially only 2.6 per cent, although the real figure may be closer to 10 per cent. This has been achieved at the cost of productivity. The unwieldy civil service is a case in point: 11,000 people, many of them teachers, work for the government (the second largest employer); half of them, says Gurun, are superfluous. And 50 per cent of the 17,760m lira 1983 budget will go on their salaries.
The wide disparity between the two economies of Cyprus is especially frustrating for the Turkish-Cypriots. They feel that economic stability has been achieved in the south through development aid which was not shared with the Turkish community and for which, as an unrecognized state, they cannot apply. Aid is badly needed to finance such projects as citrus irrigation (£31.5m) and the purchase of their own commercial airplane (\$10m).
Implementation of a 30m ECU (£19m) EEC protocol to Cyprus for 1979-1982 was delayed when the Greek-Cypriots protested that no aid should go to the Turkish community. In the end most of the aid went to the south. Turkish-Cypriot Foreign Minis-



ter Kenen Aikol recently went to Brussels, where he told EEC officials that a planned second aid package should go to both sides or to neither.
Turkey has agreed to undertake as much of the development programmes as it can afford, including the first phase of the Morphou irrigation project, (which will be completed in June). And it continues to fund more than half of the budget of the Turkish-Cypriot government. This is greatly reduced from 1963, when it provided 90 per cent of the budget, but instead of becoming more self-sufficient, the Turkish-Cypriots are becoming more dependent: from funding a high of 53 per cent of their own budget in 1979, they have sagged to a projected 37 per cent in 1983.
Total aid in 1982 amounted to 6,399m lira, most of which Turkey provided. Because of the need to import nearly all consumer goods, the 1982 trade deficit was \$80.3m; it was partly offset by tourism revenues, leaving a balance of payments deficit of \$42.8m.
Twenty per cent of the gdp and 70 per cent of the export income stem from agriculture, with citrus providing the lion's

share. In 1981 160,000 tons were produced, of which 60 per cent was exported (much of it to the UK). Two thirds of the citrus industry is state-owned.
The second-most important source of foreign revenue, tourism, faces similar problems. The number of tourists to northern Cyprus has steadily declined in five years from 112,910 to 87,629 (65,322 from Turkey). The only "positive development", according to Gurun, is that the number of European tourists has slowly increased.
Potential tourists face a number of difficulties just getting to northern Cyprus: because Ercan airport is not accepted by the International Air Transport Association, flights must be routed through Turkey. And Greek-Cypriots have applied extreme pressure on travel agents not to book tourists into "illegally owned" hotels (all but one hotel were Greek-Cypriot owned). None of the less gross receipts (3,900m lira) outstripped all exports last year.
Perhaps the most serious stumbling block to growth is the lack of foreign and domestic capital for investment. Domestic savings are far below expectations (3 per cent of the gdp in 1982) because of an archaic island law limiting interest on savings to 9 per cent with inflation at 33 per cent and Turkish banks offering rates six times as high, the savings end up in Turkey, effectively "recycling" the aid from Turkey as soon as it arrives and draining the banks. With no central bank (the Agricultural Bank of Turkey has shouldered the role) and large foreign debts, the Turkish-Cypriot government has little luck obtaining commercial loans.
The government is making efforts to lure foreign firms to northern Cyprus through the opening and upgrading of a free port in Famagusta and a new law that will provide tax exemptions to the nine firms now there (including Nadir's Unifac). Critics claim, however, that this will cost the government badly needed revenues.
The private sector in northern Cyprus is dominated by a small but flourishing group of what the opposition calls the "merchant bourgeoisie." These entrepreneurs import luxury consumer goods from Europe and sell them in the scores of small shops in the main towns. Most of the goods are sold to Turks who cannot buy them on the mainland, where imports are restricted. Turkey indulgently imposes no tariffs on imports from northern Cyprus, but recently large-scale smuggling of such items as televisions and alcohol reached such proportions that Turkey slapped taxes on large numbers of previously duty-free items.
"We are the spoiled child of Turkey," admits a government spokesman. More accurately, perhaps, an adolescent undergoing both growing pains and an identity crisis - and one not quite ready to cut the apron strings.
Amy MacDonald

Nevertheless, the government has stated that it is willing to step in to finance investment opportunities ignored by the private sector.
This may make it difficult to control the budget deficit, planned to reach a record Cyprus £96m this year. The deficit has been blamed by many local economists - including those from the central bank - for stimulating inflation and the trade deficit.
The new five-year plan calls for a steadily declining fiscal deficit. But it is difficult to see how this can be achieved, especially if the government has to take a larger share of capital investment.
Expenditure on major irrigation schemes to modernize the agricultural sector will peak in the mid-1980s. Spending on refugees continues at a high level, and debt-servicing will make greater demands on resources. Unless these conflicting demands are reconciled, the government's deficit may prove a serious brake to what has been - under the circumstances - a remarkable economic success story.
Shakib Otaqui
Middle East Economic Digest

Threatened by spiralling wage increases and inflation, widening budget deficits and a potentially disastrous growth in the payments deficit. That was in spite of rising revenues from tourism and other invisibles.
A stabilization programme with the 1979-81 plan brought the economy under control, but at the cost of a recession that badly hit the construction industry in particular. Inflation was brought down from a 13.5 per cent peak in 1980 to 10.8 per cent, and the trade deficit was reduced, but at the cost of a drop in gross domestic product (gdp) growth to only 2.4 per cent in 1981.
Last year - the first under the new plan - showed mixed results. Gdp growth accelerated to 4 per cent in real terms, inflation was down further to about 6.5 per cent, while unemployment was held to below 3 per cent. But capital investment was again disappointing, boding ill for the competitiveness of Cypriot exports in the future.
That problem can only grow unless a way can be found to stimulate investment. Exports boomed in the mid-1970s, as Cyprus found ready markets for its manufacturers in the oil-fuelled economies of the Middle East. Many of these exports were labour-intensive low-technology products, such as clothing and footwear, which now face severe competition from low-cost producers in the Far East.
At the same time, Cyprus has become vulnerable to its dependence on Arab markets, which now account for almost half of its total exports. This has aroused a lot of concern locally, especially after problems in obtaining payments from Libya, one of Cyprus's largest markets.
In spite of booming exports, the trade deficit continues to grow and reached a record

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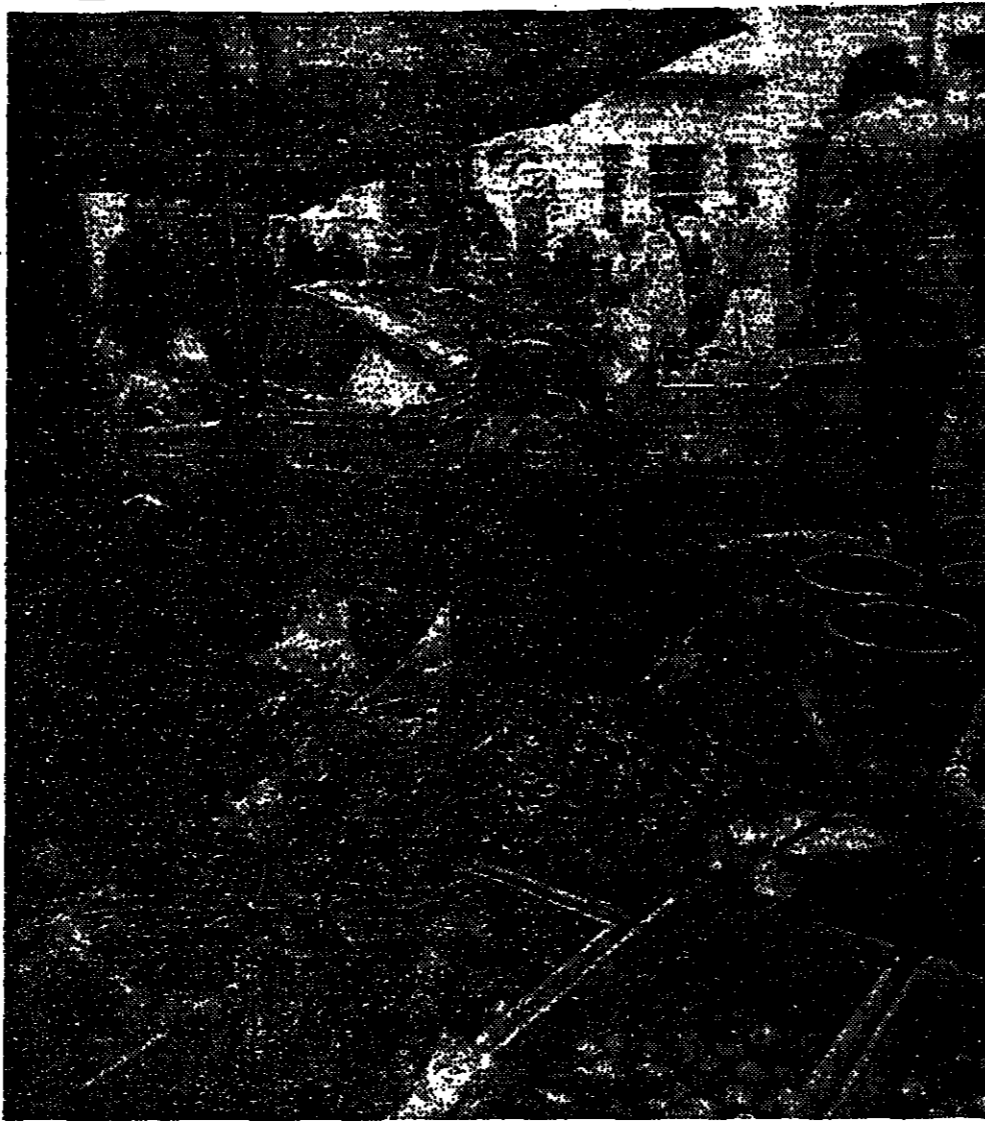
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حکومت من الاصل

TOURISM - THE NORTH

Crossroads of eight civilizations

Getting there is half the battle, but in spite of the problems - or perhaps because of them - it is well worth the extra effort to visit the still unspoilt countryside and beaches of northern Cyprus.



Fruit, vegetables, flowers - a typical market scene in everyday Cyprus

Kyrenia's elegant Dome Hotel (once known as the "Doom") because of the number of "ancient Britons" who stayed there.

but its people. The Turkish sense of hospitality is legendary and there still persists the notion that a visitor is not an intruder but a guest.

away), the hassles of getting to north Cyprus are considerable - but surmountable.

The building-boom in southern Cyprus does have its problems. There are already beds for more people than can be serviced by public transport.

Car Hire is reasonable and at certain times available for about £10 a day. Fuel, however is expensive.

Cyprus tries to cater for the tourist who will explore, spend plenty of money in hotel, taverna and shop, and come back another year, with friends.

Christine Smith Travel Trade Gazettee

TOURISM - THE SOUTH

New Towns for old

No matter how thick the velvet glove, being pushed around by authority still hurts. And the Greek Cypriots clinging grimly on to the part of the island left after the invasion by Turkish troops in 1974 are in no mood to be nudged, even by their own people.

The resilience of the Greek Cypriots and their talent for organized hospitality, led them to begin shaping new tourist areas within a few months of the loss of the important resorts of Kyrenia and Famagusta.

Large operators such as Blue Sky Holidays, Cadogan Travel, Exchange Travel, Flair, Olympic, Sovereign and Sunil Holidays do offer packages. But most people tend to travel with the smaller specialists, such as Aspro, Cypriot, Cyprus Travel Club and Troodos Travel.

ADVERTISEMENT

SOLUTION OF CYPRUS PROBLEM LONG OVERDUE

Cyprus is an historic island with one of the most ancient civilizations of the world. However, her geographic position in the Eastern Mediterranean, at the crossroads of three continents, has made her very vulnerable in the sense that she was frequently the victim of foreign invasion and occupation.

communal talks mainly for the purpose of misleading world opinion while at the same time proceeding with the consolidation of the facts accomplished by the invasion.

Cyprus. The Cyprus Government is prepared to agree to the stationing in the Republic of Cyprus, for as long as necessary, of an international U.N. Police Force which would supervise a united Greek Cypriot-Turkish Cypriot Police Force composed in accordance with the population ratio.

Conference, Inter alia, reiterated its full solidarity with and support for the people and Government of the Republic of Cyprus and reaffirmed its respect for that country's independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, unity and non-alignment.

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MARKET REPORT by Andrew Cornelius

RECENT ISSUES table with columns for issue name, price, and change.

The industrial components group BTR made all the early running on the stock market yesterday with its attempted dawn raid on Thomas Tilling.

BTR attempts dawn raid

AGENCY DAY: Dealings began, March 21. Dealings end, April 8. Contango Day, April 11. Settlement Day, April 18.

profit taking on the eve of the financial year and special situations. Even before this markets were looking for lower interest rates in the United States, and speculating that Fed funds could drop to 8.75 per cent, from the recent levels at about 10 per cent caused by Treasury settlements.

Long gilts closed up a point, mediums were a half better, and shorts were up a quarter. But volume was light. Gold mining shares figured strongly among the larger rises of the day, after the first rise in the gold price - up \$1.50 at \$430. That rise was partly to compensate for the lower dollar, and also based on technical factors after the long weekend holiday.

West Rand Consolidated was up 4 1/2p at 366, Western Areas rose 2 1/2p at 385p, East Rand was 1 1/2p higher at 491, East Dagsa gained 1 1/2p at 289p, and Leslie rose 1 1/2p at 283p.

The Dowable consortium, which is bidding £24m for Cope Allam International, is sticking to its bid.

pensions and other emoluments are topped up. Cope says the true figures are an increase of 6.5 per cent last year and 8.3 per cent the year before.

Shares in Saatchi & Saatchi, the advertising agency were a strong market after some bullish news at the company's annual meeting in London. Shareholders attending the meeting were told that the results of a streamlined management structure are beginning to show through and that the growing world market for advertising expenditures mean that prospects for 1982 are very good.

P. Brotherhood's shares were also down by 1 1/2p to 13p on the agreed bid from Therme Electronics.

London & Liverpool Trust was another company with shares on the slide by 1 1/2p to 41 1/2p with investors profit taking after the recent large rises in the company's price brought about by the £8m bid for exclusive rights to screen soccer matches over the next two seasons.

BRITISH FUNDS table with columns for fund name, price, and change.

MEDIUMS table with columns for fund name, price, and change.

LONGS table with columns for fund name, price, and change.

COMMONWEALTH AND FOREIGN table with columns for fund name, price, and change.

LOCAL AUTHORITIES table with columns for authority name, price, and change.

DOLLAR STOCKS table with columns for stock name, price, and change.

BANKS AND DISCOUNTS table with columns for bank name, price, and change.

BREWERS AND DISTILLERS table with columns for company name, price, and change.

COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL table with columns for company name, price, and change.

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BELL'S SCOTCH WHISKY BELL'S

Table with columns for company name, price, and change.

SHIPPING

Table with columns for shipping line, destination, and status.

MINES

Table with columns for mine name, price, and change.

OIL

Table with columns for oil company, price, and change.

FINANCIAL TRUSTS

Table with columns for trust name, price, and change.

INSURANCE

Table with columns for insurance company, price, and change.

INVESTMENT TRUSTS

Table with columns for investment trust name, price, and change.



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Beazer now close to Second City takeover

By Baron Phillips Property Correspondent
C H Beazer, the Bath-based housebuilding, construction and property group, looks set to take over the Midlands company, Second City Properties, following further irrevocable acceptance of its £18.4m bid.

Maxwell turns BPCC round to £12m profit

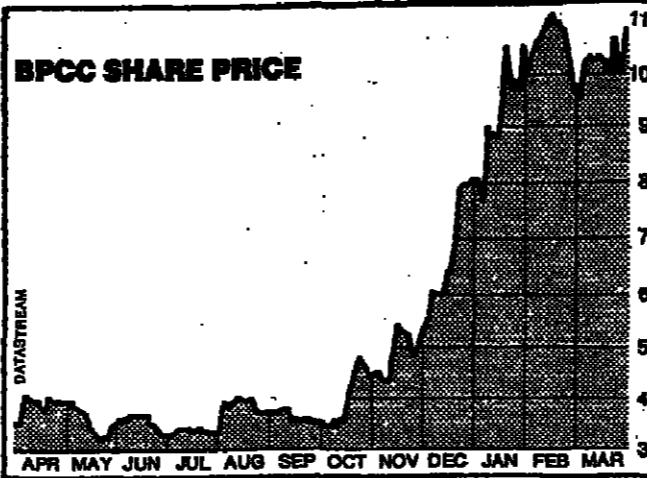
British Printing & Communications Corporation
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £12.4m (1.2m loss)
Stated earnings 11.4p (1.5p)
Turnover £182.5m (£188.1m)
Final dividend nil (same)
Share price 98p down 10p

Mr Maxwell declined to provide a breakdown of where the profits were made, beyond indicating that the Swedish operation made a strong contribution. A good contribution, too, came from the British printing plants, which benefited from improved productivity.

A more detailed breakdown of the group's performance will be made available when the 1982 annual report is published in May.

Mr Maxwell says that his survival plan for BPCC will be completed by the end of this year when he has completed the rationalization of Sun Printers and Odhams in Watford, and sorted out problems at the Park Royal printing plant in London.

He is looking for a further increase in profits during the year and is confident that payment of dividends on both ordinary and preference shares will be resumed during 1983.



Johnson Group

Johnson Group Cleaners
Year to 25.12.82
Pretax profit £5.8m (£4.1m)
Stated earnings 33.5p (17.9p)
Turnover £50.7m (£44m)
Net second interim dividend 8p (5.5p)
Share price 348+5p Yield 4.4%
Dividend payable 28.4.83

board's hand in two ways: first, if Trade Secretary approves two would-be bidders, they provide a stiff backbone for the defence. Second, if he stops the bid, the results will underpin the share price to stop it collapsing along with takeover hopes.

Opinion in the City is divided over what the decision from Lord Cockfield will be. But Johnson's 40 per cent increase in the dividend over last year indicates the board is

not convinced it will be in its favour.

What worries the company's followers is that if Initial or Sunlight Service group are stopped from bidding, Johnson will end up stuck on a profit plateau just as it did after it fought off the Sketchley bid in 1977.

Last year consumer business picked up early in April and May and profits increased from £3.3m to £4.6m while the industrial side remained flat. Now the industrial side is now showing some strength or at least it is no longer such a tough race to put on business faster than it was being lost by factory closures.

APV Holdings

A.P.V. Holdings
Year to 31.12.82
Pretax profit £17.6m (£18.4m)
Stated earnings 34.8p (37.2p)
Turnover £238m (£223.8m)
Net final dividend 7.7p mkg 10.5p (9.6)
Share price 356p up 13p Yield 4.2%

APV has increased its profits only slightly, but the substan-

Ambrosiano inquiry for S America

From John Earle Rome

Members of the Italo-Vatican Mixed Commission, set up in December to ascertain the Vatican bank's involvement with the Banco Ambrosiano empire of the late Signor Roberto Calvi, are reported on their way across the Atlantic to investigate former Ambrosiano subsidiaries in the western hemisphere.

They are expected to visit the Banco Andino in Lima, Peru, the Ambrosiano Grupo Comercial in Managua, Nicaragua, and the Banco Ambrosiano Overseas of Nassau, Bahamas. Monsignor Paul Marcinkus, the American archbishop who heads the Vatican bank, the Istituto per le Opere di Religione (IOR), used to sit on the board of the Nassau subsidiary.

The Italian government maintains the IOR owed the Ambrosiano group \$1,200m (£797m) when the latter collapsed last summer. Much of this resulted from complicated operations by Signor Calvi involving Ambrosiano group banks and phantom companies owned by the IOR. The Vatican denies liability.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity Name and Price/Change. Includes items like High grade copper, Tin, Zinc, Lead, Aluminium, Nickel, and Rubber.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity Name and Price/Change. Includes items like Coffee, Cocoa, Sugar, Wool, and Soybean Meal.

Table with 2 columns: Commodity Name and Price/Change. Includes items like Soybean Meal, Wheat, and Corn.

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Eight-point package to aid Japan's economy

Tokyo (Reuters) - The Japanese Government, acting in its usual speed, yesterday adopted a package of eight measures intended to boost the economy and to achieve the target of 3.4 per cent real economic growth in the financial year which began on Friday.

Democratic Party (LDP) leader's wish for a cut in the official discount rate. The LDP is particularly eager to see the interest rate reduced before the April 10 and 24 nationwide local elections.

United Newspapers plc advertisement. Features headline 'Profit for 1982 up 49.5%' and 'Growing confidence for 1983'. Includes a portrait of David Stevens and detailed financial and operational information.

Table titled 'COMPANY NEWS IN BRIEF' listing financial data for various companies like Unigroup, A.C. Cars, Ingall Industries, and Shama Ware.

Habit acquires Abrasives

Habit has acquired Precision Abrasives of Lichfield, Staffs, from Warne, Wright and Rowland, part of the Benjamin Priest Group.

Suppliers await verdict on cable TV contracts

Britain's communications industry's hardware suppliers are likely to learn this month if their confidence in the prospects for a national cable television network will be rewarded.

Business Class to Athens is a big seat. Advertisement for Olympic Airways featuring a large image of a plane and promotional text.

THE NEW THURMORTON TRUST PLC. Advertisement for a trust company, including details about its capital and annual general meeting.

APPOINTMENTS

New chief for Lucas finance

Mr R. Brown has become finance director and treasurer of Lucas Industries in succession to Mr J. W. Shield who is retiring.

Mr David Blackett and Mr Peter Sullivan have joined the board of N. M. Rothschild & Sons.

Mr Brandon Gough has been appointed as senior partner of Coopers & Lybrand and chairman of the firm's executive committee.

The following have been admitted as partners of Coopers & Lybrand: Ms Mollie Bickerton, Mr Philip Collins, Mr Peter J. Cooke, Mr Roger Emerson, Mr Richard North, Mr Richard H. Phillips, Mr Glyndwr D. Thomas, Mr Clive W. Talloch (all in London); Ms Jane Gilbert (Birmingham); Mr Roger Angus (Bournemouth); Mr Christopher J. Phoenix (Edinburgh); Mr Gordon Jack (Glasgow); Mr Jonathan P. Zigmund (Leeds); Mr Richard A. Wade (Leicester); Mr Russell E. C. Beeson (Maidstone); and Mr Philip Wilkinson (Northampton). Messrs Austin Bendall, John A. Hammond, David Liggins, Richard J. Plattford, and Francis J. Floeden have been made directors of Coopers & Lybrand Associates in London and Mr Victor L. Luck becomes a director in Leeds.

Mr C. David Watlen, the planning director of Burnett & Hallamshire Holdings, has been appointed chairman of the Property Division, Anglo Overseas Construction Corporation and chairman of the Oil Division, UK Petroleum Products Holdings.

In addition Burnet & Hallamshire's mining division has made the following board appointments within the division's parent company, The Mining Investment Corporation. Mr James I.M. Pitchford is appointed joint managing director (Mining Operations), Mr John R.Hall is appointed director responsible for Mining Europe, Mr Nicholas J. H. Hall is appointed director, Mining International and Mr Kenneth J. Duff is appointed director responsible for the Group's Reclaimed Fu Operations.

Michael Prest on Opec's debate on developing member countries' economies

The Gulf looks to investment

Last year the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries incurred its first current account deficit in a decade, and the probability is that Opec's 13 members will collectively import more than they export again this year. So it is understandable that recycling petrodollar mountains has come in recent months to seem the problem of a bygone age.

But there is still an Opec investment problem, and it has revived a long standing debate among oil exporters, particularly in the Gulf.

The debate revolves around how the oil and financial resources of Gulf states with large reserves of both kinds and small populations can best be deployed to develop their economies. The decline in oil prices and production has given a fresh edge to the argument about depletion rates, encouraging those who preferred lower output and more stable revenue.

But equally important when Opec members are withdrawing cash balances from the banking system is the second debate over the merits of return or yield on external assets and liquidity. These two sets of arguments are not merely technical in conservative Moslem countries they imply political differences about the pace and nature of development. For the world as a whole they are about the supply and cost of energy.

The tables show the recent history of oil producers' revenues. Gross revenues accruing to the Gulf exporters fell by almost \$50,000m in 1982 to \$126,800m, and will decline sharply again this year on any reasonable assumption about prices and production. The figure of \$103,350m for 1983 calculated here assumes that the prices and production quotas agreed at the last Opec meeting will hold.

For the immediate future, at least, the Gulf countries are the ones relevant to the discussion because they account for all the surplus - indeed, in a sense more than all the surplus since other Opec members run deficits - and they have choices about how to deploy resources.

Table: Deployment of oil producers' surpluses (\$000m). Columns: 1981, 1982(a), Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4(b). Rows: Britain, United States, Other investment, etc.

Source: Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin (a) Opec plus Bahrain, Brunei, Oman, and Trinidad and Tobago; (b) Provisional; (c) Saudi Arabia has since agreed to contribute to the General Arrangements to Borrow.

Most of this substantial potential deficit will be incurred by Opec members outside the Gulf. Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates and Qatar should run small surpluses. The exception, however, is likely to be Saudi Arabia. As the table shows, the kingdom's policy of halving output to support the oil market has also saved earnings. It is possible that Saudi Arabia will have a deficit of \$7,000m this year after allowing for outflows of around \$80,000m.

Nevertheless, Saudi Arabia at least has the luxury of choice over how to fund its deficit. Unlike poorer Opec members, it can afford to draw on reserves, slow down expenditure or even just run a modest temporary deficit. Yet the very act of choosing poses problems.

Withdrawal of reserves is one example. Opec as a whole started to draw on bank balances early last year. There are wide discrepancies in the figures because identifying the origin and destination of funds internationally is hard, the more so if they belong to secretive Arab governments. But a simple comparison drawn from Bank of England statistics suggests that Opec changed from being a net depositor of \$2,100m in 1981 (and the real amount was certainly more) to taking out a net \$3,700m.

At the same time, however, other kinds of investment have been made, albeit at a slower pace. Investment in British government securities was reduced last year, but United States Treasury bonds and notes still proved attractive, even if the quantities bought were smaller. A significant change was in other portfolio invest-

ment - chiefly equities - which fell noticeably in the final quarter. In effect therefore, net new Opec investment has halted as liquid assets have been sold or withdrawn. Some countries may be tempted to reverse previous practice and not reinvest interest or securities that mature. Mr Azar reckons that investment income on accumulated Gulf state assets could exceed oil revenues this year.

Kuwait, for example, has external assets of some \$40,000m and Saudi Arabia holds about four times as much. If one assumes that roughly \$110,000m of Saudi investments are public funds and that a third of that amount is liquid, a relatively humble average return of 7 per cent would produce sufficient income to cover the current account deficit.

So it would seem that the advocates of liquidity have been vindicated. After piling up huge bank balances in the mid-1970s, oil producers tended to switch more investment into longer term assets.

The irony is that while a political emphasis on liquidity is becoming more attractive in the Gulf, the value of longer term assets is rising. Falling interest rates pushed up the value of Opec's \$40,000m in United States and British government securities last year so that the total return could be 20 per cent. Capital gains were also made on stock markets where prices rose by as much as 50 per cent.

By the same token, income from bank deposits must have declined. But the most likely outcome of the recent traumatic Opec experience will be a more powerful lobby for diversification of revenues. Gulf oil producers do not want to be at the mercy of either oil prices or foreign investments. They thought Opec solved the first problem, but it created the second. So the chances are that any slowdown in physical economic development will be a passing measure to ease current pressure.

Economic notebook

Dubious morality of owning your home

Like motherhood and royalty, we have been brought up to believe in the virtues of home ownership. The life cycle of the family is dominated by it. We scrimp and save for the downpayment on our house saddle ourselves with mortgage commitments which all too often dictate our spending according to the vagaries of interest rates. There are millions of people who are slaves to their mortgages and whose work arrangements are subservient to the monthly mortgage repayment.

One of the first principals of finance (and commonsense, too) is not to hold all your eggs in one basket. The individual should diversify his assets so that risks are widely spread. Apart from some bank deposits, most of us invest all our wealth in the house in which we live - just the opposite of what commonsense suggests. We do not have to look very far to explain our unreasonable behaviour. Because of mortgage relief, home ownership is the most effective tax shield available to us and naturally we exploit it. It is the exact system that encourages us to place all our eggs in one basket and leaves us exposed to the risks of house price fluctuations.

Mortgage relief raises the demand for houses and thus artificially increases their price. This elementary implication of the laws of supply and demand in turn implies that the subsidization of home ownership may be self-defeating. The more inelastic the supply of housing, the greater the increase in house prices. We therefore cannot take for granted that mortgage relief is achieving its intended objective of increasing home ownership, however dubious this objective may be. It may merely be raising house prices rather than increasing the number of houses.

Moreover, home ownership incentives tend to reduce labour mobility because they reduce the vigour of the private rental market. It is argued that rent control legislation has killed off the private rental market from the supply side. It is forgotten that markets can also be killed off from the

demand side. If we create high incentives to own homes rather than to rent them, the private rental market will contract (and has contracted) on the demand side. One of the virtues of rental is that it enhances mobility. It is easier to exchange leases than to buy and sell houses.

This brings me to my main suggestion: that subsidies of home ownership be abolished. Under such circumstances people would not mind whether they rented a house or owned one. Market forces would ensure that rental rates would equal mortgage cost plus house price changes. For personal reasons some of us would choose to own rather than to rent, but the costs would be the same as the same were abolished and the Rent Act appropriately reformed. The face of the British housing market would be revolutionized. The obsession with owner occupation would be transformed for the better.

At the same time public sector housing should be denationalized so that a genuinely integrated and competitive market in accommodation can develop.

Until the last Budget, it was my impression that the Government was pursuing such a policy. The policy of council house sales plus the limitations on building were major steps in the denationalization of council housing. Rent Act reforms went some limited way to revive the private rental market from the supply side.

In the meanwhile, although mortgage relief was not abolished it was allowed to wither away with inflation and looked as though it was going to die a silent death.

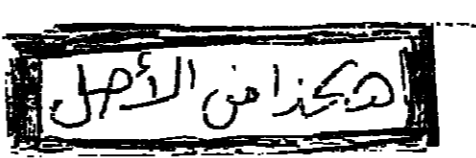
In the Budget the ceiling on mortgage relief was raised by 20 per cent. Maybe Mrs Thatcher has not really developed a sensible housing policy after all. Market economics do not always mix.

Michael Beenstock

The author is Professor of Finance Investment at the City University Business School

Table: Change in oil revenues (\$000m). Columns: 1981, 1982, 1983 (early est), 1983 (new est). Rows: Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, UAE, Qatar, TOTAL.

Large financial table with multiple columns: High, Mid, Low, Bid, Offer, Yield. Contains various financial instruments and their prices.



Boniek and the men from Lodz are Poles apart

Turin (Italy) Reuter - The Italian champions Juventus have no illusions about size of the task they have to face against Poland's Widzew Lodz in the first leg of the semi-final of the European Cup today.



Boniek: seeking his form

The Poles began the competition as tank outsiders but proved their worth when they reached the last four at the expense of Liverpool, the five-time champions.

One Juventus player knows the Poles better than anybody. Zbigniew Boniek, the flame-haired World Cup striker. He left Lodz at the end of last season to join a cast of stars including six of Italy's World Cup winning team.

Little respite from general malaise at Highfield Road

The home team continued to look marginally the more purposeful however and crossed from the right by Whetton and Francis offered some respite from the general malaise as blue shirts pressed to red and vice-versa with varying accuracy.

Coventry City 1, Nottingham Forest 2. We are now entering the dog days of the season when matches between teams in mid-table can easily degenerate into meaningless affairs.

Zamora the inspiration

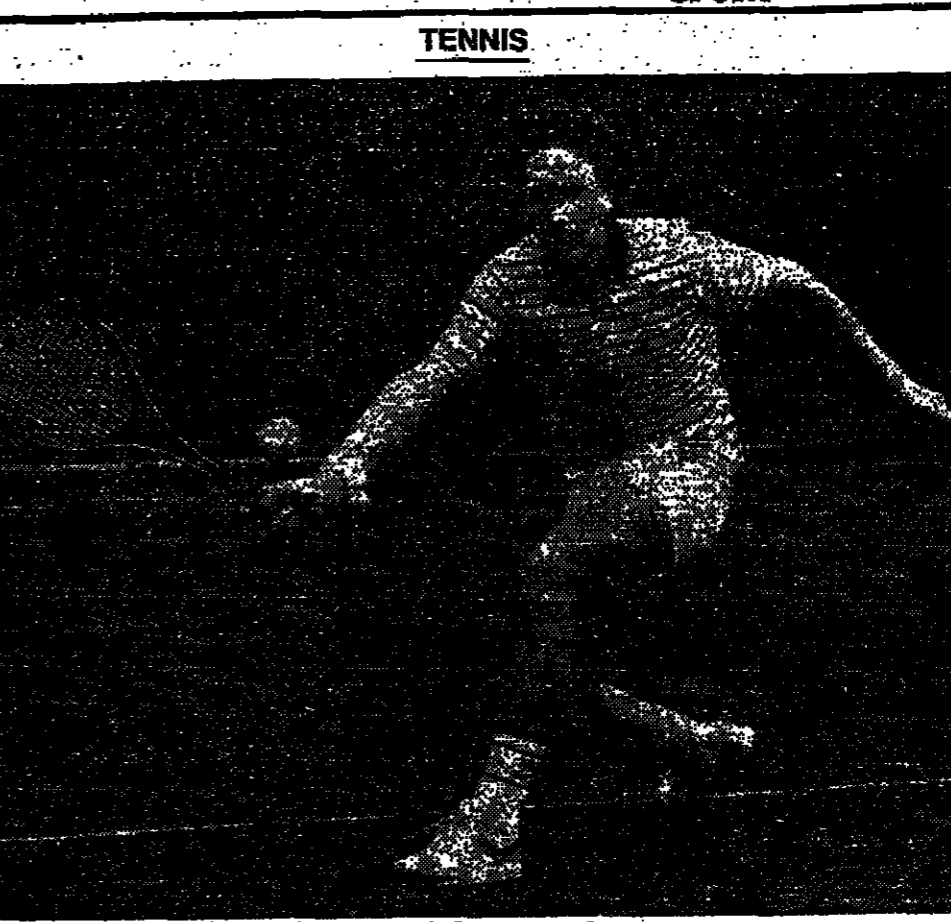
San Sebastian (Reuters) - Between them, Spain and West Germany have provided nine winners in the 27-year history of the European Cup.

Real are currently languishing in seventh place in the Spanish first division. But their confidence received a terrific boost at the weekend when they beat Barcelona 1-0.

Aberdeen must not underrate Belgians

Aberdeen have been jolted out of their recent complacency by their manager's insistence that their opponents tonight, Waterscheid, are better than they seem.

Waterscheid are the genuine article in the European competition should gain the two-goal lead they believe is required to qualify for the final of the European Cup.



Goodall of Yorkshire: second round loser

Wilander tests the wisdom of Solomon

Mats Wilander was just another customer in the public snack-bar during the Portuguese Open championships yesterday.

Wilander would not maintain an anonymous except when he is on court. But he cannot do so for long.

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Mrs Cawley on form

(Agencies) - In South Carolina, Evonne Cawley of Australia, who has already won the title in the past four years, is in the first round of the \$300,000 women's tournament.

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Bohemians off form

Prague, April 5 - Bohemians are, booed off the pitch by their fans last Sunday, were obviously conserving their strength for the UEFA Cup semi-final first leg against Anderlecht of Belgium tomorrow.

United fear dispelled

Ron Atkinson, the Manchester United manager, yesterday dispelled any long-term injury fears surrounding Steve Coppell.

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Alauddin disqualified from British Open

Geoff Hunt, whose name became synonymous with the British Open when he won a record eighth title, arrived at the event sponsored by Deviser Ltd.

Stewart's Rocket

Tom Stewart had become accustomed to the sweet smell of success since he revived the Dundee Rockets three years ago.

Gavaskar makes most of a life of ease

Georgina (Gavaskar) Reuter - Slip chance to score an unbeaten 50 in India's first innings at lunch in the fifth and final day of the interrupted first Test against West Indies.

Real test for Viennese

Vienna, Reuter - Austria Wien prepare to return to the lions' den when they meet Real Madrid, of Spain, in the first leg of their European Cup semi-final here today.

America helps British pair

Amber Brown, of Norfolk, and Sara Gomer, from Devon, have been included in the British junior Wimbledon Cup squad.

Brookes's winning way

Russell Brookes, of Britain, won the Rothman's Circuit of Ireland motor rally for the third time when he was first back in Belfast yesterday.

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Advertisement for the book 'Khidmat-e-Azadi' with a logo and title.

